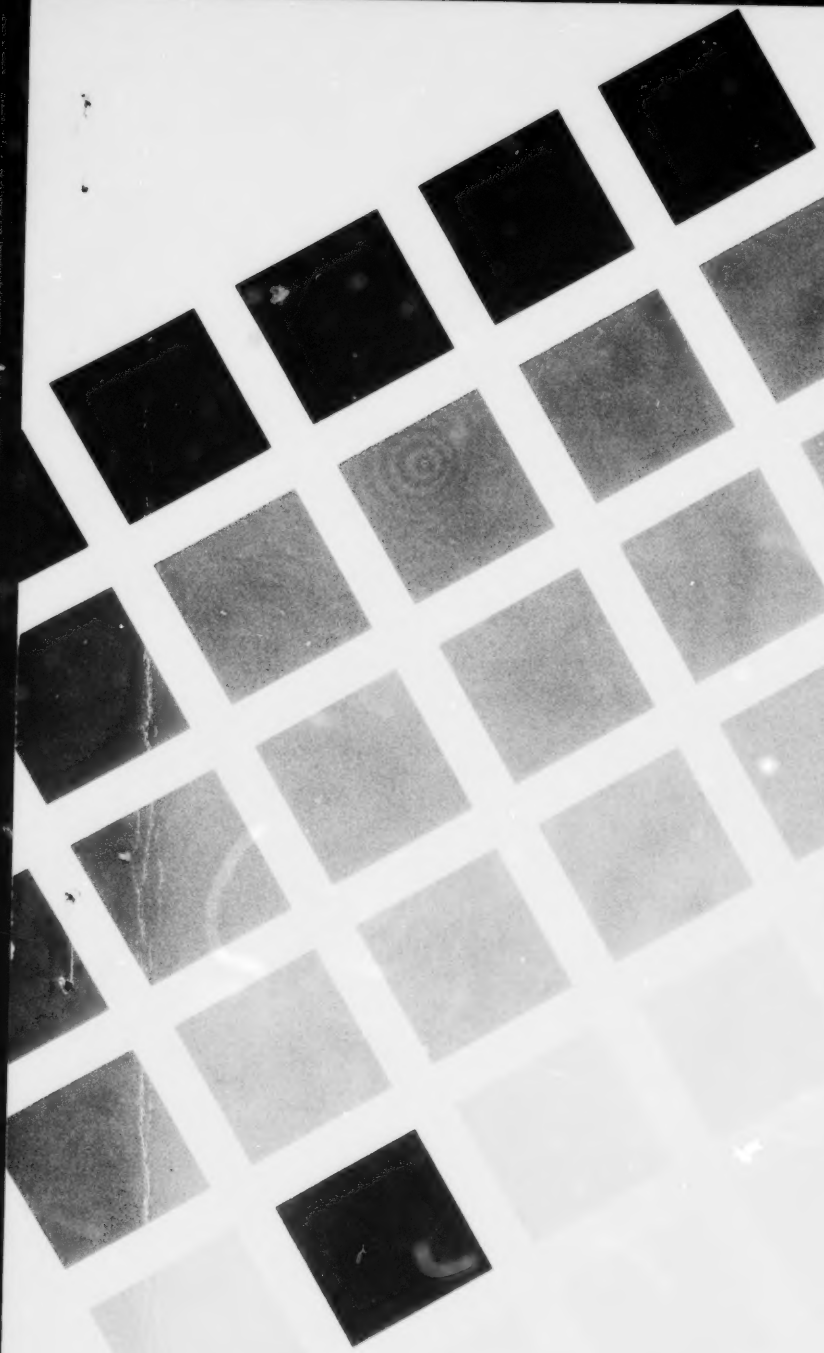

4 PLANNING TORONTO'S FUTURE: A COMPENDIUM OF COMMUNITY VIEWS

Submitted to the Cityplan '91 Task Force

PART 2

Cityplan '91

City of Toronto
Planning & Development Department

Robert E. Millward
Commissioner

4

PLANNING TORONTO'S FUTURE: A COMPENDIUM OF COMMUNITY VIEWS

PART 2

January 26, 1990

Submitted to the Cityplan '91 Task Force

$ 3.00
$10.00 –Parts 1 and 2 package

For further information please contact John Gladki, Policy and Strategic Planning Division, City of Toronto Planning and Development Department

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Planning & Development Department

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Preface

This document represents Part 2 of a two part report containing the views of Toronto's various interest groups on what should be included in the City's new Official Plan. The focus of this report is the homeless, the City's multicultural communities, and church groups.

Like Part 1, this report includes many visions of how this important and far-reaching Plan should evolve. The ideas, opinions and concerns expressed result mainly from written submissions. In other cases they are summaries of group discussions. The written views were solicited by the Task Force appointed by Toronto City Council to recommend directions for the new Official Plan.

The Cityplan '91 Task Force includes representatives of residents' and tenants' associations, business and labour groups, social service agencies, the development industry, the arts and larger multicultural communities, as well as environmentalists, non-profit housing providers, and City Councillors. It is largely these constituencies whose views are represented in this compendium. In addition, the Planning and Development Department has held discussions with members of multicultural communities not represented by the Task Force, religious leaders, the elderly, the disabled, and the City's homeless.

The diversity of opinion emerging from these discussions and written submissions points to opportunities for meaningful dialogue and innovative problem solving. However, it also illustrates the difficulty of building a consensus on matters relating to policy and planning.

This Compendium of Views will be before Task Force members as they prepare their Principles and Objectives Report for City Council. The public will have an opportunity to comment on this report at meetings held throughout the Central Area. In the meantime, other efforts to solicit views from people who live and work in the City will continue. These include the widespread distribution of questionnaires through mailings and multilingual displays, more meetings with special interest and focus groups, and a series of six projects that will enable Toronto's youth to speak out regarding their future.

The findings of the Task Force and the direct expressions of the public will guide City planners as they prepare proposals for the new Official Plan. This Proposals Report will also be circulated for public comment. Following the integration of this feedback, a final report will be published in mid 1991 and presented to City Council for its approval.

At the culmination of this two-year process, an unprecedented number of Torontonians will have had an opportunity to help mould an Official Plan that will meet their needs and the needs of their children.

By then, the Cityplan '91 slogan: "Your city. Your future. Make it your plan!" will have become a reality.

The Cityplan '91 Task Force membership

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Councillor Liz Amer City of Toronto	392-7911
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Jim Ward (Facilitator) Cityplan '91 Task Force	463-1661

CITYPLAN '91/HEALTHY CITY: HOMELESS PERSONS OUTREACH PROJECT

January, 1990

The following people
have participated in the
Homeless Persons Outreach Group:

135 of Toronto's Homeless Citizens
Kevin Barrett
Rick Ciccarelli
John Flanders
Elizabeth Greaves
Ruth Greenspan
Joy Kogawa
Sue Kaiser
Gail Lyons
Sheila Miller
Ruth Mott
Jacques Tremblay
Jim Ward
Staff of the selected sites

Consultations were held
at the following locations:

All Saints Open Door Drop In Centre
Anduhyuan Native Women's Residence
416 Drop In Centre
Metro Family Residence
Na-Me-Res Drop In/Native Men's Residence
Robertson House
St.Christopher House-The Meeting Place
Seaton House
StreetCity

Funding for this project has been provided by the City of Toronto
through the Healthy City Office and CityPlan '91

CITYPLAN '91/HEALTHY CITY: HOMELESS PERSONS OUTREACH

Summary:

The Homeless Persons Outreach Project was conceived as a way to begin a dialogue with a group of Toronto citizens who have traditionally been outside of any participatory public process although on the receiving end of public policy. As such, the primary objective of the Project Group has been to listen and report the ideas, attitudes and opinions of these citizens about their city to the CityPlan '91 Task Force and the Healthy City Work Group of the City of Toronto.

In the Fall of 1989, the Homeless Persons Outreach Group was formed to develop a means of consulting with homeless people. The group comprises eight individuals, all of whom have considerable experience in working with homeless people and the issue of homelessness. Several others provided assistance as resource persons. Staff of the Planning and Development Department co-ordinated the group.

Locations within the City that are frequented by homeless people were reviewed. Criteria included ensuring that both females and males would be involved; that persons of various ages, racial and ethnic backgrounds would be included; and that different locales within the City were covered. Nine locations were selected that were a mix of temporary hostels and drop-in centres. These included the All Saints Open Door Drop-in Centre, Anduhyuan Native Women's Residence, 416 Dundas Drop-in Centre, Metro Family Residence, Na-Me-Res Native Men's Residence, Robertson House, St.Christopher House-The Meeting Place, Seaton House, and StreetCity. Meetings with 15 persons who are homeless were set up at each locations and a discussion was held on the Cityplan'91 questions:

"What I like about Toronto is..."
"What I don't like about Toronto is..."
"If I were planning Toronto's future, I would..."

At the completion of the nine consultations, the Project Group reviewed the recorded information, which is presented in the final section of this report. Major areas of discussion were categorized into what appeared to correspond to the emerging themes of Social Equity, Quality of Life, and Managing Growth of Cityplan '91 and Healthy City. Preliminary conclusions were drawn from the information:

1. Homeless people share the same concerns as the population generally about the City of Toronto. However, because of the 'more public' and 'more marginal' nature of their lives, certain issues are likely to loom much larger for them than for members of the general population.

2. The chronic shortage of affordable housing impinges much more on the day to day lives of homeless people. It means they are likely to be homeless and continue to lead unstable lives for longer than they would be if there were sufficient affordable housing.

3. For homeless people, the relatively high cost of food in the downtown areas where most live causes budgetary hardship. Food banks are not an acceptable alternative, since to acquire food there frequently means exposure to moral censure and/or rudeness. Subsidized, affordable restaurants where homeless people can eat in dignity are seen as preferable by some.

4. Community services are part of the daily experience of homeless people. They are fully aware of all of their shortcomings, because they are frequently dependent on them. A common shortcoming is that they operate on a timetable suitable to staff of such services rather than one that matches the needs of those they are mandated to serve. Hospitals are seen as particularly unresponsive to the health needs of homeless people, who frequently must endure long waiting periods in Hospital Emergency Units as their only access point to health care. More accessible health services and better support for people who have been deinstitutionalized people are seen as essential.

5. With one main exception, public services are seen mostly in a favourable light. There are some suggestions for increasing availability and accessibility for homeless people, such as extending the hours for libraries and recreation centres. However, the justice system is not perceived to be just. Experience of nuisance offenses being dealt with by the courts imposing unpayable fines and subsequent jail terms is common. Proposed alternatives include a more effective community service order program.

6. Homeless people are the true 'low-income' people in this City. Some of them are 'no-income'. They attempt to make ends meet in a variety of ways, most of which are unsatisfactory to them as human beings and are unsatisfactory to the rest of us in the City. Two suggested improvements are: a stronger public/non-profit role that matches and develops skills and abilities with employment opportunities and facilitates people out of welfare dependency; and a liveable minimum wage for Toronto.

7. Lack of proper identification and a permanent address means that homeless people are frequently subjected to a high degree of exploitation when they go to cash their cheques at the commercial cheque cashing services. They are likely to be twice exploited: by being paid wages at a rock-bottom level for onerous work and by being charged a certain percentage for cashing the pay cheque.

8. Homeless people experience a lack of power that is equivalent to their lack of income and their lack of housing. These factors are all interrelated. They feel particularly strongly about the blocks to opportunity that appear to be built into the system. It is seen as an unresponsive system at best and one that conspires to 'keep them down' at worst. "Procrastinating politicians and bureaucratic bullshit" describes the system for many. They are likely to be the last people considered, yet the most affected when city planning decisions are made.

9. Getting around the City is more difficult for those with little money and no home. Consequently, efficient, friendly, warm public transport is of considerable importance.

10. Since they live such a public life, the environment and parks and open space play an important role in the life of homeless people. A safe, clean environment, welcoming parks and open spaces are, therefore, vital.

11. Safety is particularly important to those who are most vulnerable. Because of their lack of secure housing and income, most homeless people are extremely vulnerable. It is ironic that the supposed safety and security of the non-homeless becomes a threat to the safety and security of the homeless through police harassment on the streets, in shopping malls, etc.

It is recommended that this report be received and endorsed by the Cityplan '91 Task Force and the Healthy City Work Group. The Homeless Persons Outreach Group further proposes to design and carry out a strategy for continuing participation of persons who are homeless in the planning process of Cityplan '91, and to prepare a draft community development strategy relating to issues identified in the report for consideration by the Healthy City Task Force. The Alternative Housing Sub-committee of the City of Toronto Neighbourhoods Committee are to be involved in the development of this strategy. Copies of the report will be made available free of charge.

CITYPLAN '91/HEALTHY CITY: HOMELESS PERSONS OUTREACH PROJECT

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CITYPLAN '91/HEALTHY CITY: HOMELESS PERSONS OUTREACH PROJECT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Homeless Persons Outreach Project was conceived as a way to begin a dialogue with a group of Toronto citizens who have traditionally been outside of any participatory public process although on the receiving end of public policy. As such, the primary objective of the Project Group has been to listen and report the ideas, attitudes and opinions of these citizens about their city to the CityPlan '91 Task Force and the Health City Work Group of the City of Toronto.

Our intent has not been to educate participants to the planning process nor to provide an understanding of government. It has instead been to open up lines of communication in the hope that a more informed public policy will also be one that incorporates the interests and concerns of Toronto's most disempowered community.

There are no reliable estimates on the number of people who are homeless or live in insecure accommodation in the City of Toronto. The scale of the problem can be judged against information collected by the Metro Community Services Department on the use of hostels and shelters. In their most recent statistical package, Metro Hostel Operations Division reported that from July 1,1987 to June 30, 1988, there were 25,316 individuals served by the "emergency" housing system, including 15,194 men, 6,291 women and 3,831 children. Statistics for 1988/89 were not available at the time of writing this report.

Given that the majority of the hostels and shelters are located within the City of Toronto, and that there is a continuing decline in housing stock that is affordable to people who are in a marginal economic position, it is clear that the issue of homelessness must be addressed immediately. It is also clear that there will be no quick solutions.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

The Homeless Persons Outreach Group was formed in the Fall of 1989 to develop a means of consulting with homeless people. The group comprises eight individuals, all of whom have considerable experience in working with homeless people and the issue of homelessness. Several others provided assistance as resource persons. Staff of the Planning and Development Department co-ordinated group.

Locations within the City that are frequented by homeless people were reviewed. Criteria included ensuring that both females and males would be involved; that persons of various ages, racial and ethnic backgrounds would be included; and that different locales

within the City were covered. Nine locations were selected that were a mix of temporary hostels and drop-in centres. These included the All Saints Open Door Drop-in Centre, Anduhyuan Native Women's Residence, 416 Dundas Drop-in Centre, Metro Family Residence, Na-Me-Res Native Men's Residence, Robertson House, St.Christopher House-The Meeting Place, Seaton House, and StreetCity.

A staff person at each of the selected locations was contacted and plans were made to hold a "focus group" discussion on a particular date. The staff person was asked to recruit 15 people from their location to attend the focus group. Prospective participants were informed of the general purpose of the meeting, that refreshments would be available, and that an honorarium of $15 and two Transit tickets would be provided.

On the arranged date, two members of the Project Group attended to facilitate and record the discussion. A basic overview of the purpose of the Official Plan and the Cityplan'91 review process was given to each group at the introduction of the session. Although the difficulty of maintaining contact with all participants was recognized, each group was informed that there will be followup discussions held once the first round of CityPlan consultations were completed. This was stated as likely occurring in the Spring of 1990. No information was presented concerning the potential for establishing community development objectives related to the Healthy City programme, as the Project Group considered this premature.

A discussion of approximately one hour took place during each session. The content was structured around the CityPlan '91 Public Consultation Questionnaire. This involved having participants consider three incomplete statements:

"What I like about Toronto is..."
"What I don't like about Toronto is..."
"If I were planning Toronto's future, I would..."

As the participants responded, their statements were recorded on a flip chart. The meeting format did not guarantee in-depth exploration of the issues being stated by participants. Once a key word or phrase was recorded reflecting the thoughts being expressed by a participant, the facilitator requested input from others. This was often responded to by presentation of a different topic, given the openness of the focal statements. Although a wide range

of issues were identified through the process, several factors limit the analysis:

- Any single-recorded issue may have been concurred with by many members of the group, or may have been a minority opinion.

- The relative importance of any particular issue was not checked against that of other issues identified within the group, nor among groups. The number of times an issue is mentioned does not necessarily indicate its importance.

- Whereas silence by group members on particular comments tended to indicate agreement or neutrality, it may also have been that a participant felt threatened by the comment and at risk if they put forward their own opinion. This situation was encountered when comments expressed reverse-discrimination, such as "People from other countries shouldn't get housing before me", "I don't like homosexuals", and "There are too many different languages". These opinions went unchallenged by participants during groups that likely had new immigrants, gay, or non-anglo members, or other members unsympathetic to such statements.

At the completion of the nine consultations, the Project Group reviewed the recorded information, which is presented in the final section of this report. Major areas of discussion were categorized into what appeared to correspond to the emerging themes of Social Equity, Quality of Life, and Managing Growth of Cityplan '91 and Healthy City. The focus group material was then used to develop this report.

It should be recognized that the information generated through this consultation process presents a perspective that is not easily matched with traditional land use planning. This should in no way limit its value.

3.0 SOCIAL EQUITY ISSUES

Consulting with people who are homeless is a first step in establishing an equal voice in shaping the future of Toronto for those previously silent and silenced. Homeless persons face obstructions to adequate housing, income, food, community services and social participation in their day to day existence. People with few personal resources are vulnerable to being treated as replaceable members of an expendable underclass. Their experience presents a major challenge to the definition and reality of "Social Equity" in this city.

3.1 HOUSING

Lack of affordable housing is obviously a major problem for homeless people. Women, men, single mothers, families and native peoples all have much to say about their lives in public housing, rooming houses and hostels -- most of it born out of bitter personal experience. They know how the system fails to meet their needs. They know what needs to change.

People need a place to live. "I'd like to be able to have a place of my own -- a little apartment, even a room and a kitchen -- I like my own space." Lack of affordable housing and high rents are forcing " ...too many people to sleep on the street." Many complain, "When you find a place you can't afford it." "When you pay $800 per month rent and you're only making $1000 per month, you only have $200 left for food, transportation and everything else."

Homeless people are calling for more affordable housing scattered throughout the city: " ...places where you would like to bring your friends or family." "Build low-rental housing, so everyone, rich and poor, can get work and a place to live in the city." One man suggests that, if money is a problem, we should " ...start a lottery for building affordable housing."

Public Housing:

Homeless people complain about public housing, and especially the time it takes to get in. One man, living in Seaton House said, "There's a two and a half year waiting list for Ontario Housing. I could be dead by then!" When they do get in people do not like the " ...lack of respect for tenants and lack of commitment from staff." "The MTHA system sucks -- while you wait to get in -- [and it sucks] once you are in."

There are many complaints about the remote locations of the projects, the lack of services and the condition of the housing. One woman called it: "Crappy housing, offered in really poor shape

by the MTHA." People do not like to live in large projects where, " ...lots of low-income people are lumped together, like Regent Park." Low income housing should be integrated with other housing.

Mothers express concerns for their children. "MTHA is no place to raise children, there are syringes in the hallways, and tenants are threatened by people hanging out in the lobby." Another mother agrees, "Drugs are rampant in Metro housing -- MTHA housing has nicknames like 'The Corridor' and there doesn't seem to be any response ...."

Most people dream of what they would like to see: "Housing would be near good schools, safe, clean, easy to get to, close to shopping and transportation." They ask for more common space, more security, and, " ...more recreation space and programs for kids and families."

Justice within the system is important. "Make sure the social housing system is fair and for people who really need it. Follow-up on people who don't need to be living in Ontario Housing any more, but still are." One woman suggests that, "When a woman was being battered, [the authorities] should move in and say, 'he should move out,' and let the woman move back in."

Landlords:

Homeless people are bitter about landlords, calling them "Slum Lords" and "Scum Lords." One man says, "You have to go to slummy, cockroach infested places." Another sights, "Manipulative landlords that charge high rents for places that they don't maintain." People feel that it is unfair to be asked to pay first and last months rent, or to pay a damage deposit, for places that are not maintained.

One man claims that " ...landlords don't want anything to do with welfare [recipients]." Another says, "People try hard to get housing, landlords aren't fair to them, [and] people end up back on the streets." "When you have been a long term, responsible tenant and find yourself short of rent money, there is no place to go."

People do not like landlords that " ...throw you out with a pet." "Everyone has the right to have their pets, [yet] the poor often don't [have that right] -- and can't get apartments with pets."

One man suggests that the City should have " ...someone who assesses housing and doesn't let people live in dumps.

The standards of a place should fit the costs. An agency should take care of it." Others feel there should be stricter rent controls, proper eviction notices, and " ...stiff penalties for landlords who evict in winter." While there is a general call for "no more Slum Lords," one woman says that she would like to "...get a place where I can get along with the landlord."

Rooming Houses:

People, especially single men, complain that it is hard to get a room. "Living in rooming houses is substandard -- no visitors, too many rules, and they cost too much money." They see a need for " ...more rights for roomers," and more control over the quality of rental rooms. One man says, "I wouldn't let a cockroach live in most of the places that I can afford."

One woman, living in the Anduhyaun Residence, sees a special need. She says, "I'd like to see a rooming house for recovering alcoholics, where you pay your own rent, [and where] the superintendent will know something about alcoholism. Permanent for as long as you want, where there is someone to talk to. You don't have to be there for meals."

Hostels:

Many of the men and women consulted in this outreach have spent many nights in hostels, not just those now living in Robertson House and Seaton House. For many the experience of living in hostels is evident in the bitterness of their comments. "Hostels are disgusting." "Seaton House sucks." "Hostels are just warehouses." One man, objects to the living conditions in hostels and maintains that the "Toronto Humane Society is better than Dixon Hall." A woman objects to the " . . . violence, abuse and theft in City run hostels, especially Robertson House."

People do not like to be forced to leave their hostels during the day. "Have hostels open all day, in bad weather and on weekends." One man suggests that there should be more places to drink, " ...if you live outside, you should be able to drink alcohol there." Some felt there should be " ...more hostels, but not as big as Seaton House. They should be in a decentralized location, not all downtown." Everyone wants locker facilities in hostels and better food.

A man in Seaton House complains that "People from 1001 Queen Street West are sent to Seaton House in the summer and we have to put up with them." "Give people who are deinstitutionalized from the mental health system proper [and separate] supportive housing, or, keep them in hospitals. They should not end up in places like Seaton House."

Special housing needs:

Many people in the low-income housing market do not have their needs met. Participants want more low-rental housing for single people, unmarried mothers,and for people with children. They suggest, "Separate places for younger people just starting out to live alone, but they should make sure there is enough privacy, like having separate bathrooms." "Spend money on housing, especially for street kids. We need community centres for kids programs; affordable day care centres with flexible hours for shift workers, and more spaces for kids of all ages."

Some want, "More housing for older people -- subsidized and comfy, with swimming pools." Others suggest making, " ...separate places for middle-aged people to live, like the seniors have."

Other special needs include: emergency pick-ups for handicapped people sleeping in bus shelters, and permanent housing for alcohol and drug addicted people; parks where people can camp, or sleep, without getting fined. "Police harass you when you just want a place to sleep in a warehouse or under a bridge."

Discrimination:

Many experience discrimination in housing. One person says that "... if you're on welfare, they don't rent to you." Another states, "They should mix low-income rental units for families within high-rises. We're all human beings, even if we are poor. We're just as good as the ones with lots of money."

One man at Na-Me-Res, reports that there is " ...too much discrimination. When they see a native person, they say, 'sorry, it's rented out,' or they jack up the price." Another man said there should be " ...more homes for native people, we should have first priority, we were here first."

It is common for attitudes that discriminate against recent immigrants to surface. "I don't like people from other countries getting housing over Canadians who don't." Another suggests that " ...people coming to Canada should be helped to find housing outside of Toronto -- they don't know anything about living in the city."

Many feel that the City is allowing too many condominiums to be built. Homeless people do not like middle-class people moving into their traditional low-rental areas and "white painting" houses since this eliminates affordable housing and rooms. Some low-income people say that " ...speculation on housing should be a crime."

Letting people fix up buildings for themselves:

People questioned think it is a crime when they see empty, or boarded-up buildings that could be used for low-cost housing. This attitude is especially prevalent among the men at Street-City who are helping to build their own homes. They say, "Let community groups fix up old buildings and let people move in. "They urge the City to " . . . make more Street-City projects."

Housing Priorities VS The Sky Dome and the Olympic Games:

Not all the people consulted see the Sky Dome and the Olympics as a bad thing for the city. Some see these projects as creating many unskilled jobs. However, many want to send a clear message to City Hall.

One man says that, " . . . too much money was spent on the Sky Dome and not enough on housing [when] the hostels are packed." Another man lamented about " . . . the way all the cheap rooming houses are getting torn down because of development. The Olympics will eliminate all the places that I can afford. Look at what happened in Montreal and Vancouver. Do you think that Toronto will be different?"

"Money is going into an Olympic bid that could go into helping homeless people. This will be even worse if Toronto doesn't get the Olympics."

3.2 WORK AND INCOME

Ten comments recorded in the focus groups relate Work and Income as attractive features of Toronto. Most mentioned the plentitude of both full and part-time jobs. Access to entry-level jobs for new employees and the availability of training programmes and night-school courses were positively perceived.

Remarks about income mentioned that Welfare offers first and last month's rent, and helpful programmes.

Of the 40 recorded comments that associate Work and Income as negative experiences, many were political in nature. There is an awareness of the 'rip-offs' from the cheque cashing services like Money-mart; recognition that free trade was affecting the job market adversely and eliminating jobs for Canadians; a sense of discrimination in hiring street people; concern about the "sweat shop employers" who offer no security or benefits and poor wages.

Men who wait on the street near the temporary agencies waiting for work stated that they feel harassed by the police. Those who work for temporary agencies also criticized the low wages they receive from employers who collect much more from clients, and the taxes they pay on their wages.

Negative comments specific to income included the analysis that the welfare system keeps people oppressed by not helping them off welfare, and that lack of Identification is a barrier for many to receiving benefits and getting banking privileges. Several people mentioned rates being too low and not matching inflation, especially in Toronto's housing market. One remark blamed others for the problems of poverty - new immigrants on welfare.

In considering what to include in planning for Toronto's future, most of the 17 comments centred around increasing access to jobs and job training. Others wanted higher minimum wage standards for Toronto, and more government regulation of the temporary employment agencies. There was a suggestion that the government plan to disperse jobs throughout Ontario, so that environmental impact in this region is minimized and migration to Toronto in search of work would not be a necessity. Comments regarding income wanted higher benefits, easier access to services like dental-care and eye-glasses. Others wanted a total restructuring of welfare, so that there was more assistance available for people to get free of the system, and recommended T.T.C. passes, work clothes and boots.

3.3 FOOD

Food was mentioned favourably by five participants, who appreciated the diversity and availability, and in one case, the free meals available in Toronto.

Eleven commented on what they did not like - the meals provided at hostels were criticized sharply; food banks and the questions asked there (particularly of young men); the high cost of food, and lack of affordable grocery stores in some downtown areas.

One person wanted to see better food in jails. Another recommended that food banks be closed, and those resources put into affordable restaurants with good food, and government supports.

3.4 COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community services, next to housing and equally with community empowerment, are of major concern and interest to homeless people. They must provide a safety net of supports and benefits necessary for the emotional and physical survival of people who do not have a home.

Education, financial assistance for food, shelter and clothing, healthcare, daycare, information on rights and available services, employment training and access, affordable access to amenities and recreation, and opportunities to socially interact with other people are seen as vital needs by the homeless people who participated in the consultations. They yearn for a caring community. "Have more caring teachers in the school...they should be willing to help you learn, to take time to go over something if you need it." "Help the adults so that they can help the kids." "More assistance for newcomers to Toronto to help orient them."

In responding to the question "What do you like about Toronto?", homeless people had fewer comments to make than to the other two questions. They value the City's educational programmes, free services and the drop-ins. Only 3 existing services were specifically mentioned during the focus groups (H.E.L.P., Operation Springboard and 416 Dundas St. E.). The inclusion of food in comments concerning community services highlights the inadequacy of income maintenance levels in Toronto.

Negative comments about Toronto make up the largest number of responses in this consultative process. Homeless people talk about the lack of supports, programmes and caring attitudes experienced in their struggle towards positive personal change. "When you are trying hard to better yourself, those who are in the position to help often blame you and mislead you with wrong information (especially social assistance workers and landlords)." "There are not enough places to get information and counselling about your rights." Native participants, while sharing in the concerns of others, expressed the need for more services specific to their population.

Homeless people in Toronto talk about injustice and loss of dignity in their assessment of community services. "Missions serve you when they want to serve you not when you need it." "Hostels open too late.... have curfews that are too early ....make you leave too early in the morning." "Churches lock doors." "Libraries close too early." More than one participant remarked on the lack of public washrooms and showers, especially for the homeless.

In the negative comments about Toronto's community services there is an acute awareness of health problems and issues. "Hospital emergency that does not give good treatment; slow, inadequate, could die before you are admitted." "Need more treatment for people with addiction problems." "Not enough places for the mentally ill." "Medical services are not good if you don't have I.D.." The frustrations of having community services play such a major role in the life of homeless persons can be summed up in the words of a participant: "Being put on hold on the suicide hot line."

Many of the ideas on what should be included in the planning process call for increasing the availability of community services: "more drop ins," "more social workers", "more treatment centres," "more counselling,"more service agencies," "more shelters". In reviewing these responses it becomes clear that homeless people do not envision a future independent of community and social services.

When a participant sees a better future as "more public baths and delousing facilities", it points out the need to develop innovative and creative community service approaches to poverty and homelessness that will help to break the model of dependency. It appears that homeless people do not see themselves as likely getting more

access to the larger society. Instead, they ask for more of the same community services they are currently criticizing.

The challenge for Cityplan '91 and Healthy City is the development of community services that, along with other initiatives, will work to eliminate homelessness and poverty so that people can envision a future beyond the immediacy of "Where Will I Sleep Tonight?"

3.5 COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

The people involved in these consultations see Toronto as a divided community, in which some have more power than they deserve, while others are left out. They consistently referred to instances where they were discriminated against, denied opportunities, and shut out due to their economic status, appearance, race, lack of education or lack of an address. For this group, Toronto is a "rich man's city".

Political structures appear particularly inaccessible to this group. "Society makes it difficult for minorities, especially Native Canadians to advance to places of power, politicians, high level civil servants." Instead, this group is faced with "politicians that don't listen and act on our needs", procrastinating politicians" and "bureaucratic bullshit". The Dome stadium is a common symbol used to express such alienation: "money goes into building things like the Dome instead of going to help people." Their frustration is clear: "Can the City actually do anything on most issues?"

The Police, Courts and Jail systems represent another source of discrimination and oppression to the people involved in these consultations. There were references to "police attitudes", "police harassment", "police brutality" and "the Blue Klux Klan". One person commented that police were "especially discriminatory against native people. Officer publicly expressed racist views at (the) time he should have/was providing assistance." Similarly, poor and homeless persons are at a disadvantage in the courts. "People ... have to go to jail because they can't pay fines." "I don't like being looked at as a criminal because I don't have an address." "I don't like guys getting cleaned off the street and stuck in jail because of the Summit, or Expo (Vancouver)."

Big Business and the rich were regularly described as having opportunities and advantages far beyond what they deserve, while there is "not enough respect for people with no money". "Big business is determining how things run for everyone." The City of Toronto is seen to control land such that "affordable housing is left to the last to do ... business gets the best sites." "Unequal taxes" mean that "the rich get the breaks. The higher (your) income, the less you pay." It is perceived that "the general attitude of people in Toronto" is "of the rich."

Landlords, the medical profession, schools, the welfare system, authorities, employers, and yuppies were also identified as having undue control over -- or being unresponsive to the needs of -- the people involved in these consultations.

Some suggestions were offered regarding the process of empowerment for this community. Often people would simply target the problems identified above as requiring action. One participant wants "landlords and employers to give me a chance instead of thinking that I'm lower class because of how I look or because I don't have a high school diploma." Others wanted "opportunities for women to speak out", "more kid centres run by street people" and "more handicapped access to everything".

Systems which are unresponsive should be changed. For example: "require the social workers to live on the street for three months before working with homeless people." One participant commented that "there should be a way for ordinary people to understand the facts about the economy and have some say in how the economy is run." Another said "Politicians should be there to help you."

The homeless people involved in these consultations expressed the desire to "create a community with my closest friends", and for a voice in decisions that affect them. These aspirations are not unlike those of any other members of our society, except that homeless people face more than their share of obstacles in struggling to attain them. It seems that consultations like this may be a small step in the right direction:

"[I'd like] more opportunities to speak out like this. We can speak for ourselves, we don't need people to speak for us."

4.0 QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES

How do homeless people view life in their City? A sense of place is defined by many aspects. These include not only issues of urban survival described in the previous section, but reflections of the people, buildings, and general ethos of Toronto. The ways in which Toronto serves and controls their lives are also parts of the whole. What emerges is a picture of the quality of life in Toronto, as perceived by people who are homeless.

4.1 CHARACTER OF THE CITY

Toronto is described by many participants as a "friendly" and "beautiful" city. The diversity of cultures, active street life, numerous 'people' places, interesting architecture and variety of entertainment opportunities are cited as attractive features.

However, the attractiveness of Toronto to the homeless person is diminished by their negative experiences with other Torontonians. Discrimination because of class and racial background, exploitation by employers and landlords who view them as replaceable, harassment by authorities, and fear for personal safety are conditions of everyday life.

Participants expressed strong feelings of being socially dislocated and frustrated: "There are people with a lot of skills caught in the (hostel/welfare) system and wasted." "(There is) no encouragement, support or care by people in this city for those who are homeless.""There are too many make-believe friends."

Similarly, Toronto's amenities have critical drawbacks. Limited access, affordability, and self-consciousness about social standing present barriers to participation in city life:"Harbourfront is too yuppie-ish.""(I don't like) churches that lock their doors.""There are not enough public washrooms.""Not much to do (at night) if you are not a drinker...."

The surroundings of a homeless person are full of places that they do not like: "slummy, cockroach" accommodation,"run down hostels", "hospital emergency wards (that give) slow (and often) inadequate (treatment)"," food banks that ask too many questions", private "Middle Man" temporary employment offices and "sweat shops" where "contract work equals slave labour", and frequent experiences in "crowded jails" for nuisance offenses.

Yet, participants demonstrated a commitment to Toronto and proposed positive contributions to the character of the City. A more interesting Toronto can be created through "more murals and street art", "more places to show off native arts and culture", "a designated place for graffiti and political messages", ornamental "water fountains", and "downtown walking malls".

New places for entertainment were put forward, such as "a dance pavilion near the Boardwalk" and a "casino on the Island". Making public facilities "like the museum" and "the dome" affordable, making more of the city accessible to the physically disabled, and increasing the availability of basic public conveniences such as "public toilets and drinking fountains" will improve 'liveability'.

Several ideas were offered on how to positively contribute to the human image of Toronto. Participants recommended that there should be "more assistance to newcomers to Toronto to help orient them", and "poster campaigns to encourage public courtesy everywhere, especially for those who deal with the public." Another calls for "more Toronto-based theatre and television productions and documentaries (portraying) real-life situations". The social fabric can be strengthened through actively placing "more value on family" and "expanding multiculturalism" in the city. In consideration of their personal situation, "an awareness program" about the issues of homeless people was suggested as a means of breaking down negative social attitudes that obstruct the public will to make significant change.

4.2 ENVIRONMENT

Given that homeless people spend a greater amount of their time in the 'great outdoors' than most citizens, it is no surprise that they are particularly aware of environmental problems.

The homeless people consulted were very concerned about air, land and water pollution in the City. They showed particular concern about pollution of Lake Ontario and the Don River.

There is some disagreement on whether or not Toronto is a relatively clean or dirty city. Those who believe the latter put part of the blame on irresponsible citizens who litter, those who neglect to 'scoop' after their pets, and people who dump garbage from their boats. Proposals for more recycling and garbage reduction, products that decompose faster, and a more energy-conscious public demonstrate an active awareness of the environment.

In terms of indoors environments, there is recognition of the importance of the 'smoking versus no smoking' debate. Since most homeless people are working class a high proportion of them are smokers and many of the drop-in centres catering to the homeless allow smoking in recognition of this. However, several of the homeless people consulted had adopted the middle class no-smoking stance so that, when the issue was raised it became the occasion for lively debate.

Another target of the indoor environment was cockroach infestation.

4.3 PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Comments regarding parks and open space only accounted for a small percentage of the total. This is somewhat unexpected, as homeless people spend more of their time in parks and other public open spaces than most other Torontonians. The time of year that the consultations took place may account for the lack of discussion.

The most frequent concerns expressed about parks and public open spaces were that there should be more of them. "A little bit of open space, a bit of land and trees every so often", were desired as oases within the wasteland of concrete and private property. Some participants expressed a strong appreciation for the larger public open spaces such as the "Leslie Street Spit", "Toronto Islands", "the Boardwalk" and "Harbourfront". Aesthetically pleasing features such as murals and fountains were proposed, as were concerts and more recreational opportunities for children and adolescents.

4.4 SAFE CITY

Personal safety on the streets, using public transit and in hostels is a significant issue for homeless people. Violence, harassment and theft of belongings are experienced by many and are cause for concern by all.

Many participants mentioned that they are frequently subjected to harassment by others on the street, that they experience disrespect from the public generally and from store clerks in particular. Police scrutiny is experienced by many; brutality and harsh treatment from those in authority are expected behaviours. Development of Guardian Angel programs and mandatory reporting by Police whenever weapons are unholstered were proposed as ways to reduce police-related violence.

Hostels were mentioned by several as places where there is a lack of personal safety; where there is a lack of security for personal belongings; where there is a lack of privacy. Public housing came in for similar criticism, and the influx of drugs and drug dealing were seen by several participants as a major cause of discomfort for women and their children in public housing.

Both male and female participants reported that they feel vulnerable to sexual aggression and assault. Many female participants pointed out that they had left homes because of physical, emotional or sexual abuse by partners or landlords. It was expressed by many that there should be harsher sentences for people convicted of sexual assault and that there should be more services for victims.

Several participants noted the need for a safe place to raise children. The observation of young adolescent prostitutes on the Yonge Street track was viewed as disturbing.

Despite the above, Toronto was seen as a progressive city in the area of women's safety.

4.5 TRANSPORTATION

Several participants expressed positive views about the TTC - its affordability, frequency and dependability. However, congestion in subways, streetcars and bus shelters was a particular concern of many. Frustration was expressed by those present with long waiting periods, particularly during cold weather, and with the difficulties faced by mothers with young children.

Most participants were satisfied with the taxi services available, although two people expressed annoyance that taxi drivers will sometimes refuse to go into low income communities.

Suggested improvements to public transit included increased security and safety on the TTC, the introduction of a 24 hour subway service, free TTC services on the weekends and for senior citizens at all times, improved design of surface and subway systems to improve access for wheelchairs and strollers, public relations training for drivers and a separate transit service for students and workers.

Several people were concerned about private transportation. Relief of traffic congestion can be achieved through restricting private cars from the downtown core and/or the building of new freeways. A suggestion to reduce drunk driving was to have bars serve designated drivers non-alcoholic beverages free of charge or to provide free taxi service to intoxicated patrons.

Cyclists and pedestrians were also considered. More bike paths and the designation of bicycle-only lanes on major streets were put forward as valuable improvements to the transportation system. There were suggestions that outdoor pedestrian malls be developed, with Yonge street being mentioned as a potential location.

4.6 PRIVATE SECTOR SERVICES

As homeless people lead a marginal economic existence, their consumerism is limited. Shopping was viewed in terms of whether the basics of clothing and food can be afforded: "not enough affordable retail stores downtown", "even second hand clothes cost a lot", "not enough affordable grocery stores downtown", "I don't like Kraft Dinner and Beans (as a regular diet)".

Beer and alcohol consumption was a focus for several participants. Restrictions on where and when these items could be purchased and where they had to be consumed drew negative comments.

Hours of operation of commercial services was an issue. More 24 hour laundromats, and Sunday shopping were suggested improvements. Longer hours for places of entertainment for non-drinkers was also proposed.

Financial services are extremely limited for homeless people. Without an address, it is nearly impossible to get identification. A drivers licence is difficult and costly to maintain, and few homeless people can afford to own or operate a vehicle. Identification is easily lost or stolen when living on the street. Banks will not open an account or cash a paycheque or government cheque if proper identification is not presented. Given that homelessness equates to poverty, the very experience of doing banking is alienating. Cheque Cashing services, which cost a percentage of the value of the cheque, are used regularly and are widely disliked.

As can be expected, housing services are described negatively: "I don't like being ripped off by Homelocater services that charge 10 %" and "manipulative landlords that charge high rents for places that they don't maintain.""I'd like a place where I can get along with the landlord."

Since life on the street is not a supportive environment for personal relationships, it is not surprising that the references to intimacy were commercial in nature. Several participants proposed that prostitution be legalized and "junk advertising" that uses sex-appeal as a marketing ploy be banned.

4.7 PUBLIC SECTOR SERVICES

General appreciation was shown for a wide range of public services by focus group participants. Community Centres, libraries, public works, recreation centres, the transit system, public education system, employment training programs, variety of social agencies, welfare and rental assistance programs were all recognized as assets of Toronto.

Homeless people are taxpayers, and share many of the concerns of the taxpaying public: "Too much tax gets taken off temporary salaries.""Too many rules for the Child Tax Credit--works against many people that need the money.""I don't like paying the 9% sales tax.""Essential commodities should not be taxed"."Tax on beer and cigarettes is too high.""There's too much tax on everything...."

Similarly, familiar concerns about the functioning of the system were raised. Participants expressed dislike of "strikes by public servants" and tax revenues being wasted on "opinion polls" that deal with "silly" issues. False alarms of emergency services such as ambulance and police "are noisy and a waste of money". The welfare system was viewed as designed to perpetuate dependence instead of facilitate independence.

Increasing availability and access to libraries and recreation centres through extended hours was proposed. Horse-mounted police officers were viewed positively whereas police in general were associated with brutality, harassment and prejudice. An expanded Community Service Order program and a "small time for small crime" approach by the courts were proposed improvements to the justice system. Focus group members called for additional health clinics and substance-abuse treatment centres to deal with their needs, and additional mental health support services for others they have encountered on the street.

5.0 MANAGING GROWTH ISSUES

Growth, in the planning lexicon, focuses largely on the physical development of the urban core and its related demands upon the infrastructure of the city, such as its transportation and public works systems. The desired outcome of growth is economic benefits defined in such terms as a varied and active workforce, good residential opportunities, vibrant commercial activity, and appreciating value of financial assets. It is intended that through participating in these factors, the citizens of Toronto can have a reasonable standard of living and have access to means of upward mobility. As is evidenced by the preceding sections, a large group within Toronto's population is dislocated, isolated and excluded by the process of growth that is taking place. Can "growth" be adequately redefined to include the interests of homeless people?

5.1 DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES OF THE CITY

Although participants identified places and amenities of Toronto as features that they liked about the city, few if any positive comments were made about the development process. Many relate "runaway development" to large office buildings that they will never work in and expensive condominiums they will never own. Boarded up buildings and torn down rooming houses that once provided low cost housing, lost amenities such as the Terrace Roller Skating Rink, and being trapped in the hostel system are all seen as costs of living borne by homeless people.

Those involved in the "Big Business" interests of the development industry, not the average Torontonian, are viewed as the people to whom the benefits of life in the City are flowing. Politicians who are financed by developers and churches that are converted into condominiums after years of tax breaks were scorned by the participants.

The planning system was also targeted:"The length of time between planning something and doing it...by the time it happens, it doesn't meet the needs.""Choices are made for political reasons, affordable housing is left to the last."

Several directions for managing future development emerged from the focus groups. "Less expansion of the Downtown Core" with the priority on "Affordable Housing as the main thing". "Divert government and private money from big buck things like the Olympics and new subways to building housing that I can afford, helping the unemployed, raising the minimum wage."

"More Citizen control" over the factors that affect Toronto's economy was called for, and a role for homeless people was requested. "We are all one city. Let's change the way people talk and feel about the division between the haves and the have-nots, and make all parts of the city good places to live, not just some of them."

6.0 PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

The consultations with homeless people highlight the following points:

1. Homeless people share the same concerns as the population generally about the City of Toronto. However, because of the 'more public' and 'more marginal' nature of their lives, certain issues are likely to loom much larger for them than for members of the general population.

2. The chronic shortage of affordable housing impinges much more on the day to day lives of homeless people. It means they are likely to be homeless and continue to lead unstable lives for longer than they would be if there were sufficient affordable housing.

3. For homeless people, the relatively high cost of food in the downtown areas where most live causes budgetary hardship. Food banks are not an acceptable alternative, since to acquire food there frequently means exposure to moral censure and/or rudeness. Subsidized, affordable restaurants where homeless people can eat in dignity are seen as preferable by some.

4. Community services are part of the daily experience of homeless people. They are fully aware of all of their shortcomings, because they are frequently dependent on them. A common shortcoming is that they operate on a timetable suitable to staff of such services rather than one that matches the needs of those they are mandated to serve. Hospitals are seen as particularly unresponsive to the health needs of homeless people, who frequently must endure long waiting periods in Hospital Emergency Units as their only access point to health care. More accessible health services and better support for people who have been deinstitutionalized people are seen as essential.

5. With one main exception, public services are seen mostly in a favourable light. There are some suggestions for increasing availability and accessibility for homeless people, such as extending the hours for libraries and recreation centres. However, the justice system is not perceived to be just. Experience of nuisance offenses being dealt with by the courts imposing unpayable fines and subsequent jail terms is common. Proposed alternatives include a more effective community service order program.

6. Homeless people are the true 'low-income' people in this City. Some of them are 'no-income'. They attempt to make ends meet in a variety of ways, most of which are unsatisfactory to them as human beings and are unsatisfactory to the rest of us in the City. Two suggested improvements are: a stronger public/non-profit role that matches and develops skills and abilities with employment opportunities and facilitates people out of welfare dependency; and a liveable minimum wage for Toronto.

7. Lack of proper identification and a permanent address means that homeless people are frequently subjected to a high degree of exploitation when they go to cash their cheques at the commercial cheque cashing services. They are likely to be twice exploited: by being paid wages at a rock-bottom level for onerous work and by being charged a certain percentage for cashing the pay cheque.

8. Homeless people experience a lack of power that is equivalent to their lack of income and their lack of housing. These factors are all interrelated. They feel particularly strongly about the blocks to opportunity that appear to be built into the system. It is seen as an unresponsive system at best and one that conspires to 'keep them down' at worst. "Procrastinating politicians and bureaucratic bullshit" describes the system for many. They are likely to be the last people considered, yet the most affected when city planning decisions are made.

9. Getting around the City is more difficult for those with little money and no home. Consequently, efficient, friendly, warm public transport is of considerable importance.

10. Since they live such a public life, the environment and parks and open space play an important role in the life of homeless people. A safe, clean environment, welcoming parks and open spaces are, therefore, vital.

11. Safety is particularly important to those who are most vulnerable. Because of their lack of secure housing and income, most homeless people are extremely vulnerable. It is ironic that the supposed safety and security of the non-homeless becomes a threat to the safety and security of the homeless through police harassment on the streets, in shopping malls, etc.

The voice of those who are homeless should be taken seriously into account in the development of Cityplan '91 and the Healthy City program. The concentration of homeless people is primarily within the Central Area. Their very public lives means that they are likely to have the kinds of insights that other citizens who spend much less time on the streets of this city are likely to have. By reaching out and involving the "have-leasts", there is potential for meaningful change for all.

This process has been a beginning in listening to those voices. However, it is only a beginning and should be used as a point of departure for much greater involvement of Toronto's homeless population in the city planning process. Two comments are particularly appropriate in setting the directions in which to proceed:

"We are 'Homeless' not helpless. We should have more input."

"Look at the 'Dislikes' list seriously, because it is much longer than the list of things we like about Toronto."

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That this report be received and endorsed by the Cityplan '91 Task Force and the Healthy City Work Group.

2. That the Homeless Persons Outreach Group design and carry out a strategy for continuing participation of persons who are homeless in the planning process of Cityplan '91.

3. That the Homeless Persons Outreach Group prepare a draft community development strategy relating to issues identified in this report for consideration by the Healthy City Work Group, and that this be done in consultation with the Alternative Housing Sub-committee of Neighbourhoods Committee.

4. That this report be distributed to drop-in centres, hostels, support service organizations, City departments, appropriate upper-level government bodies, and any other interested persons free of charge.

7.0 TRANSCRIPTS

7.1 ALL SAINTS - OPEN DOOR DROP IN CENTRE

PARTICIPANTS: 13 MEN AND 2 WOMEN PARTICIPATED, MOST OF THEM BETWEEN 20 AND 35 YEARS OLD.

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT TORONTO IS:

NIGHT LIFE
ENTERTAINMENT
CONCERTS
LOTS OF RESTAURANTS
ONTARIO PLACE
ISLANDS
WEATHER --SEASONS, NO TORNADOS
GROWING SIZE OF THE CITY
PEOPLE
THE WOMEN
SHOPPING
THE EATON CENTRE
INDUSTRIAL AREA
TEMPORARY WORK IS AVAILABLE
WELFARE
FREE MEALS
LOTS OF WORK
TTC (WHEN IT WORKS)
FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT
SKYDOME
COMMUNITY CENTRES AND RECREATION CENTRES
BIG HOTEL COMPLEXES
PIGEON PARK(GERRARD AND PARLIAMENT)
EVERYTHING IS CLOSE TOGETHER AND EASY TO GET TO
LAKESHORE DEVELOPMENT

WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT TORONTO IS:

GARBAGE ON THE BEACH
NOT ENOUGH AFFORDABLE HOUSING, ESPECIALLY PLACES WHERE YOU WOULD LIKE TO BRING YOUR FRIENDS OR FAMILY
MANIPULATIVE LANDLORDS THAT CHARGE HIGH RENTS FOR PLACES THAT THEY DON'T MAINTAIN
CITY BLOCKS TOO BIG TO WALK AROUND
PRICE OF CLOTHING
NOT ENOUGH RESPECT FOR PEOPLE WITH NO MONEY, WHO ARE OFTEN TREATED LIKE LOW-LIFES, BY HOSTELS AND POLICE
JAILS
TRAFFIC CONGESTION

All Saints - Open Door

"Don't like..."

LOW WAGES, EMPLOYERS THAT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PEOPLE WHO NEED TO WORK AND TEMPORARY SERVICES THAT PAY PEOPLE ONLY A SMALL HOURLY WAGE EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE COLLECTING HIGH RATES FROM THE COMPANY. VANCOUVER OUTLAWED THIS PRACTICE
THE CITY DOESN'T EXERT ENOUGH CONTROL OVER THE HEALTH ENVIRONMENT
QUICK PACE OF THE CITY, PEOPLE DON'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO STOP FOR TRAFFIC LIGHTS
TOO MUCH TAX GETS TAKEN OFF TEMPORARY SALARIES.
OVERCROWDED SUBWAYS AND BUSES
AIR POLLUTION/WATER POLLUTION
NOT ENOUGH PARKS
NO SWIMMING IN THE LAKE
NOT ENOUGH RECREATION, ESPECIALLY ON THE WEEKEND/THE CENTRES ARE CLOSED
CHANGE THE HOCKEY TEAM/THE MAPLE LEAFS
NEED MORE TREATMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH ADDICTION PROBLEMS
TOO MANY HOSPITALS IN THE DOWNTOWN/ AND TOO LONG A WAIT AT THE HOSPITALS FOR TREATMENT/ DOCTORS AREN'T THERE WHEN YOU NEED THEM
HOSTELS OPEN UP TOO LATE IN THE DAY (4PM)//THEN HAVE CURFEWS THAT ARE TOO EARLY (11PM)// AND THEN MAKE YOU LEAVE TOO EARLY IN THE MORNING
POLICE HARASSMENT
DON'T LIKE TO LINE UP FOR FOOD AT HOSTELS
HOSTEL FOOD IS BAD QUALITY--POORLY COOKED SO THERE IS NO NUTRITIONAL VALUE AND FOOD MAY BE INFESTED WITH ROACHES.
HOSTELS ARE JUST WAREHOUSES
MISSIONS SERVE YOU WHEN THEY WANT TO SERVE YOU, NOT WHEN YOU NEED IT
LARGE HOUSING PROJECTS (LOTS OF LOW INCOME HOUSING ALL LUMPED TOGETHER, LIKE REGENT PARK)
HOMOSEXUALITY
LACK OF SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE LEAVING QUEEN STREET (MHC), ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY ARE ALL LUMPED TOGETHER IN ONE BUILDING
DON'T LIKE INCONSISTENT RULES AND ADVICE FROM EACH DIFFERENT WORKER
WELFARE WORKERS HAVE TOO MUCH POWER
DOUBLE TRANSIT FARES WHEN YOU GO TO A JOB OUTSIDE OF METRO--LIKE MISSISSAUGA
NOT ENOUGH HELP FOR HANDICAPPED PEOPLE, LIKE ACCESS RAMPS. MANY HAVE TO GO ALL THE WAY AROUND THE BUILDING OR AROUND THE BLOCK TO GET INTO PLACES
NOT ENOUGH DROP INS
NOT ENOUGH PLACES FOR THE MENTALLY ILL
TORONTO SIDEWALKS DON'T GET CLEARED WELL ENOUGH IN THE WINTER

All Saints - Open Door

"Don't like..."

TOO MANY MAKE BELIEVE FRIENDS
NOT ENOUGH OPEN SPACE
TOO MUCH MONEY IS SPENT ON SILLY OPINION POLLS
TOO MUCH ATTENTION IS PAID TO PETTY ISSUES, LIKE RCMP BEING ALLOWED TO WEAR TURBANS, OR THE PATTY STARR AFFAIR
TOO MANY PEOPLE HAVE TO SLEEP ON THE STREET

THINGS I WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE ABOUT TORONTO:

MORE COUNSELLING FOR PEOPLE COMING INTO TORONTO
MORE RIGHTS FOR ROOMERS
MORE PUBLIC TOILETS AND DRINKING FOUNTAINS
MORE FREE THINGS TO DO
DISBURSE JOBS THROUGHOUT ONTARIO SO DEVELOPMENT DOESN'T RUIN THE WATER AND AIR
GOVERNMENT SHOULD SUBSIDIZE THE DROP-INS SO PEOPLE DON'T HAVE TO PAY FOR COFFEE AND FOOD
PROVIDE BETTER CHANCES FOR PEOPLE WHO ONLY HAVE A FEW YEARS OF JOB EXPERIENCE, WHEN THE WANT ADS ALL ASK FOR A WHOLE LOT MORE
MAKE " INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY " WORK RIGHT, INSTEAD OF GUILTY UNTIL PROVEN INNOCENT, THE WAY IT WORKS NOW
HARSHER SENTENCES FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE CONVICTED OF SEXUAL OFFENSES
BETTER ACCESS TO EYEGLASSES AND HEALTH SERVICES FOR PEOPLE ON WELFARE
WELFARE SHOULD LET COUPLES APPLY TOGETHER, INSTEAD OF SPLITTING THEM UP
PROVIDE ON CENTRAL WELFARE OFFICE
PROVIDE MORE EMPLOYMENT COUNSELLORS
MAKE CITY BUYING POLICIES WORK FOR NATIONAL POLITICAL ISSUES--LIKE THE CITY SHOULD MAKE SURE IT DOESN'T BUY SOUTH AFRICAN PRODUCTS
CLOSE THE FOODBANKS AND HAVE THE GOVERNMENT OPEN RESTAURANTS THAT SERVE GOOD FOOD AT GOOD PRICES
MAKE ALL POLICE CARS THE SAME COLOUR
FREE TRANSIT FOR SENIORS, BECAUSE THEY ARE ON FIXED INCOMES, AND INFLATION INCREASES AT A FASTER RATE THAN THEIR PENSIONS
PROVIDE SEPARATE TRANSIT FOR STUDENTS AND PEOPLE GOING TO WORK TO RELIEVE CONGESTION
MORE FREEWAYS TO REDUCE TRAFFIC CONGESTION DOWNTOWN
MAKE SUBWAYS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE
PROVIDE A CAR-FREE SECTION OF TORONTO
MAKE THE STREETS WINDING, INSTEAD OF STRAIGHT
MAKE A SEPARATE PLACE FOR MIDDLE AGE PEOPLE TO LIVE--LIKE SENIORS

All Saints - Open Door

"Changes"

MAKE SEPARATE PLACES FOR YOUNGER PEOPLE JUST STARTING OUT TO LIVE, BUT MAKE SURE THERE IS ENOUGH PRIVACY, LIKE SEPARATE BATHROOMS
PUT A CASINO ON THE ISLAND
STOP SMOKING, ESPECIALLY IN THE CHURCH (ALL SAINTS)
LEARN TO GET ALONG
FLY ONLY CANADIAN AND ONTARIO FLAGS IN THE CITY
HAVE MORE CANADIANS ON THE WELFARE LISTS, NOT NEW IMMIGRANTS
CLEAN UP BURNED OUT BUILDINGS RIGHT AWAY SO NEW HOUSING CAN BE BUILT AND THE PEOPLE THAT LIVED THERE FOR A LONG TIME ARE NOT LEFT HOMELESS
MAKE MORE " STREET CITY " PROJECTS
ALLOW PETS IN APARTMENTS
MAKE MORE OPEN SPACES AND PARKS
LOOK AT THE DISLIKES LIST SERIOUSLY, BECAUSE IT IS MUCH LONGER THAN THE LIST OF THINGS WE LIKE
MAKE CITY GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE AND HAVE THEM DO WHAT THEY SAY THEY WILL DO
MAKE UNIVERSITY AREAS MORE NOTICEABLE SO THEY DON'T INTERFERE WITH LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO LIVE
SCATTER LOW INCOME HOUSING THROUGHOUT THE CITY
WE ARE ALL ONE CITY--CHANGE THEY WAY PEOPLE FEEL AND TALK ABOUT THE DIVISION BETWEEN THE HAVES AND THE HAVE-NOTS--MAKE ALL PARTS OF THE CITY GOOD PLACES TO LIVE, NOT JUST SOME OF THEM, LIKE ROSEDALE
CHANGE THE MEDIA SO IT WON'T BLOW THINGS OUT OF PROPORTION
ADD ALL NIGHT DROP -INS SINCE THERE IS NO PLACE TO GO AFTER 10PM
DO CLOSER MONITORING OF CITY POLITICIANS--LIMIT THE NUMBER OF TERMS THEY CAN HOLD OFFICE,REMOVE THEM IF THEY VIOLATE CONFLICT OF INTEREST RULES AND CHARGE THEM IN COURT AND MAKE SURE THEY CANNOT RUN FOR ELECTIONS AGAIN (EXAMPLE:sinclair) POLITICIANS SHOULD HIRE PEOPLE TO KEEP THEIR BUDGETS IN LINE (SIDE BENEFIT WILL BE TO CREATE JOBS)
CITY PLAN SHOULD FOCUS ON PLANNING FOR PEOPLE WITHOUT HOMES, NOT ON PLANNING FOR PROJECTS LIKE HARBOURFRONT, SINCE MANY OWNERS THERE ARE IN IT FOR INVESTMENT AND ALREADY HAVE A PLACE TO LIVE.
PROVIDE BETTER ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY AND HIGHER EDUCATION FOR ADULTS

7.2 ANDUHYAUN RESIDENCE

WHAT WE LIKE ABOUT TORONTO..

I LIKE IT AS A CITY, IT IS MY HOME NOW
I LIKE IT AS A CITY -- THE STRUCTURE OF THE CITY, THE PARKS, THE RECREATION CENTRES, CITY HALL, THE BUILDINGS, THE LOOK OF THE CITY....IT'S A PRETTY CITY
I LIKE THE VENDORS AND THE STREET PEOPLE
TORONTO IS A PRETTY GOOD CITY COMPARED TO OTHER CITIES
EVERYTHING'S OUT MORE IN THE OPEN -- THAT'S GOOD
DROP-INS, WITH COUNSELLING, FACILITIES TO CLEAN CLOTHES AND SELF, FOOD, T.V. CLOTHES, GETTING I.D.
THE ARCHITECTURE
THE TORONTO ISLANDS -- ESCAPE FROM THE CITY TO OPEN SPACE
LEAVE IT AS IT IS -- NO MORE BUILDINGS
THE CNE--A ONCE A YEAR TREAT WE LOOK FORWARD TO
WONDERLAND
ROYAL WINTER FAIR
HARBOURFRONT
ZOO
ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE
PLANETARIUM
TORONTO'S OLD BUILDINGS

WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT TORONTO

TOO MANY PEOPLE
IT IS TERRIFYING TO GO ON THE BUSES AND SUBWAY -- THE PUSHING AND SHOVING
I USED TO LIKE TORONTO, BUT I DON'T ANY MORE
POLLUTION
NOT ENOUGH LOW RENTAL HOUSING FOR SINGLE PEOPLE AND PEOPLE WITH CHILDREN
WE NEED MORE OF THIS, AND LESS OF SKYDOMES AND THINGS LIKE THIS, THEY'RE NOT NECESSARY
YOU HAVE TO GO TO SLUMMY, COCKROACH PLACES
IT'S HARD TO GET A ROOM
TOO MUCH DISCRIMINATION, WHEN THEY SEE A NATIVE PERSON, THEY SAY, "SORRY, IT'S RENTED OUT" OR THEY JACK UP THE PRICE
IF YOU'RE ON WELFARE, THEY DON'T RENT TO YOU
GOVERNMENT IS TOO STRICT, LAYING DOWN TOO MANY LAWS LIKE RAISING PRICES FOR TTC, BANNING CIGARETTES, THINGS LIKE THAT--THEY CAN AFFORD TO DO THAT
I DON'T LIKE ALL THE MOLESTING GOING ON, --PEOPLE ARE GETTING RAPED, CHILDREN ARE GETTING ABDUCTED

Anduhyuan

"Don't like..."

TOO MUCH SICKIES AND PERVERTS OUT THAT SHOULD BE LOCKED UP
NOBODY IN THEIR RIGHT MIND WOULD RAPE AN 80 YEAR OLD WOMAN
I THINK IT'S TERRIBLE WHEN THEY GO AFTER THEM AT THAT AGE, OR THE LITTLE ONES WHO CAN'T SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

I DON'T LIKE THE TTC DRIVERS ACTING ROUGH, LIKE THEY KNOW EVERYTHING -- MOST OF THEM WON'T GET UP AND HELP A WOMAN WITH A STROLLER
RULES IN HOSTELS, I.E. LEAVING DURING THE DAY
LACK OF RESPECT OF TENANTS:LACK OF COMMITMENT FROM OHC STAFF
OVERCROWDING IN STORES, TTC, ETC.
NOT ENOUGH SERVICES FOR NATIVE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY NEWLY ARRIVED IN TORONTO
RESOURCES FOR NATIVE PEOPLE (ARE) NOT WELCOMING/ACCESSIBLE

WHAT WE'D LIKE TO SEE IN TORONTO

FOR THEM TO LEAVE A LITTLE BIT OF SPACE, MAYBE EVERY MILE WITHIN THE CITY - A BIT OF LAND, TREES, PARKS
I'D LIKE TO BE ABLE TO HAVE A PLACE OF MY OWN -- A LITTLE APARTMENT, EVEN A ROOM AND KITCHEN -- I LIKE MY OWN SPACE
THEY SHOULD PROVIDE RECREATIONAL AREAS AND PARKS IN LOW RENTAL HOUSING
GET A PLACE WHERE I CAN GET ALONG WITH THE LANDLORD
THEY SHOULD MIX LOW-RENTAL UNITS FOR FAMILIES WITHIN HIGH-RISES, WE'RE ALL HUMAN BEINGS, EVEN IF WE'RE POOR; WE'RE JUST AS GOOD AS THE ONES WITH LOTS OF MONEY
MORE LOW RENTAL OR ONTARIO HOUSING -- WHEN A WOMAN IS BEING BATTERED, THEY SHOULD MOVE IN AND SAY HE SHOULD MOVE OUT AND LET THE WOMAN MOVE BACK IN
PEOPLE COMING INTO CANADA SHOULD BE HELPED TO FIND HOUSING OUTSIDE OF TORONTO-- THEY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT LIVING IN THE CITY
I'D LIKE TO SEE THE TAXPAYERS MONEY SPENT MORE WISELY --> CLEAN UP THE STREETS--GIVE MONEY TO THE NATIVE PEOPLE TO CLEAN UP ALL THE PAPERS ARE BLOWING ON THE STREETS
I'D LIKE TO SEE A ROOMING HOUSE FOR RECOVERING ALCOHOLICS -- PAY YOUR OWN RENT, THE SUPERINTENDENT WILL KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT ALCOHOLISM. PERMANENT FOR AS LONG AS YOU WANT, SOMEBODY TO TALK TO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE THERE FOR MEALS
MORE HOUSING FOR PSYCHIATRIC PATIENTS, NOT HOSTELS
EASIER EGRESS
MORE SECURITY IN HOUSING

Anduyhuan

"Changes..."

GETTING TENANTS INVOLVED IN CLEANING UP HOUSING
IN HOUSING -- MORE RECREATION SPACE AND PROGRAMS FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES
MORE TRADITIONAL FAMILY VALUES
MORE AFFORDABLE ACCESS TO AMENITIES LIKE MUSEUMS, ZOOS, ETC.
MORE SCHOOLS FOR NATIVE CHILDREN TO LEARN THEIR LANGUAGE, CULTURE
MORE SCIENCE
MORE ASSISTANCE FOR NEWCOMERS TO TORONTO TO HELP ORIENT THEM--
BOOKLETS WITH INFORMATION
COUNSELLING FOR NEW TORONTONIANS
INFORMATION BOOTHS/PHONES FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOUSING AND TRANSIT
SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE
MORE MONEY FOR SOCIAL ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS
MORE CONTROL OVER QUALITY OF RENTAL ROOMS--INSPECTORS

7.3 416 DROP IN CENTRE

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT TORONTO:

DRUG EDUCATION, ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNGER KIDS
TORONTO MOST PROGRESSIVE CITY RE: WOMEN'S SAFETY
MOUNTED POLICE, LET'S HAVE MORE
EDUCATION RE; SEX AND MANNERS FOR YOUTH
PARKS
ZOO
LOCKERS IN HOSTELS
THE TREES
BUILDING AND RENOVATIONS
THE GREAT DIVERSITY AND VARIETY OF SOCIAL SERVICES
VARIETY OF CULTURES
416 DUNDAS
CITYPLAN 91 WILL STOP US GOING THE WAY OF NEW YORK CITY

WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT TORONTO:

CRACKDOWNS ON STREET VENDORS, ESPECIALLY ARTISTS
POLICE HARASSMENT OF STREET PROSTITUTION
PROBLEMS FOR MOTHERS GETTING BACK TO THE WORKFORCE
PROBLEMS FOR TENANTS WITH PETS
EXPENSIVE PARKING

416 Drop-In Centre

"Don't like..."

TORONTONIANS NOT THE PRIORITY
"DOMES" NOT HOMES
WHITE-PAINTING ELIMINATES HOUSING
JUNK ADVERTISING, ESPECIALLY SEX
NOISE AND OVERCROWDING (SUBWAYS)
HARBOURFRONT IS CUT OFF FROM THE CITY
DEMOLISHING THE TERRACE
VIOLENCE AND ABUSE AND THEFT IN CITY RUN HOSTEL SETTINGS (e.g. ROBERTSON HOUSE)
NOT ENOUGH APPROPRIATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING
TOO MANY LARGE AREAS OF LOW INCOME HOUSING (e.g. REGENT PARK) INTEGRATE THEM
BEING PUT ON HOLD ON THE SUICIDE HOTLINE

WHAT I'D LIKE TO CHANGE ABOUT TORONTO:

SHOULD BE HIGHER WAGES
SHOULD BE LOWER RENTS
PROSTITUTION SHOULD BE SUPERVISED AND SAFE
SHOULD BE MORE HOUSING FOR OLDER PEOPLE
LOWER THE AGE FOR BENEFITS BELOW 65
NEED MORE HOMES FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS
SAFER ENVIRONMENT, ESPECIALLY FOR WOMEN
MORE MURALS, STREET ART
NEW BUILDINGS FOR SENIORS, SUBSIDIZED AND COMFY (SWIMMING POOLS)
MORE ACCESS TO JOBS FOR WOMEN
MORE SUPPORTS FOR SINGLE WOMEN
TTC DRIVERS SHOULD GET PUBLIC RELATIONS TRAINING
POSTER CAMPAIGNS TO ENCOURAGE COURTESY EVERYWHERE, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO DEAL WITH THE PUBLIC
MORE DROP-INS AND BETTER FUNDING
COMMON SPACE IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE NON-PROFIT HOUSING
A 24 HOUR DROP-IN
EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY CENTRES IN ALL AREAS
PROMOTION ON WHAT'S AVAILABLE
24 HOUR SUBWAY SYSTEM
LOCKER FACILITIES IN ALL HOSTELS
INCREASE DRUG TREATMENT CENTRES/PROGRAMS. LESSEN THE WAITING TIME
MORE PERMANENT HOUSING FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTED PEOPLE
MORE HOMES FOR NATIVE PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE FIRST PRIORITY, THEY WERE HERE FIRST
OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN TO SPEAK OUT
SELF CONTAINED HOUSING
MORE PLACES TO SHOW OFF NATIVE ARTS AND CULTURE
MORE 416 DUNDASES
WHEN POLICE PULL GUNS IT SHOULD BE REPORTED
MORE INFORMATION ON COMMUNITY SERVICES

416 Drop-In Centre

"Changes..."

MORE PUBLIC BATHS AND DELOUSING FACILITIES
MORE SOCIAL PROGRAMS AND BENEFITS LIKE SWEDEN
MORE SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ETC
DO MORE ABOUT ABUSE AND VIOLENCE AT ROBERSTON HOUSE
AFFORDABLE APPROPRIATE HOUSING (X3)
LEGALIZED(CONTROLLED) BROTHELS (1 FOR, 1 AGAINST)
FREE AND SAFE BIRTH CONTROL
MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO SPEAK OUT LIKE THIS: WE CAN SPEAK FOR OURSELVES, WE DON'T NEED PEOPLE TO SPEAK FOR US

WISH LIST

BASKET OF TOILETRIES FOR ALL (BEING CLEAN)
WOULD LIKE TO GET OUT OF TORONTO
WOULD BUY AS MANY HOUSES AS POSSIBLE AND TURN THEM INTO DROP-INS
MORE COMMUNITY/STREET PARTY/GET-TOGETHERS
TO ELIMINATE NEED TO HAVE DROP-INS(I.E. ALL HAVE MONEY AND SECURITY AND A PLACE TO BE
I'D LIKE TO BE ABLE TO WALK DOWN THE STREET AND SEE EVERYONE SMILING
I'D LIKE TO BE DIVORCED
WE NEED A DANCE PAVILION AND BOARDWALK IN THE EAST END
SOMETHING LIKE THE SWEDISH SYSTEM FOR UNWED MOTHERS
THAT EVERYONE SHARE WHAT THEY HAVE
EVERYONE HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE THEIR PETS (THE POOR OFTEN DON'T - - CAN'T GET APARTMENTS WITH PETS)

7.4 METRO FAMILY RESIDENCE

WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT TORONTO IS...

THE WAY THE GOVERNMENT SYSTEM IS UPSIDE DOWN, INSIDE OUT AND DISCRIMINATES AGAINST ORDINARY PEOPLE. IT IS AN UNFAIR SYSTEM FOR GIVING PEOPLE HOUSING.

WHEN YOU ARE TRYING HARD TO BETTER YOURSELF, THOSE WHO ARE IN THE POSITION TO HELP OFTEN BLAME YOU AND MISLEAD YOU WITH WRONG INFORMATION (ESPECIALLY SOCIAL ASSISTANCE WORKERS AND LANDLORDS.)

WHEN YOU HAVE BEEN A LONG TERM, RESPONSIBLE TENANT AND FIND YOURSELF SHORT OF RENT MONEY, THERE IS NO PLACE TO GO.

MANY PEOPLE DON'T KNOW THEIR RIGHTS OR ARE AFRAID TO PUSH FOR THEIR RIGHTS OR ASK ABOUT THEM.

LANDLORDS DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH WELFARE AND REFUSE TO SIGN THE PROMISSORY NOTE.

THE ONLY WAY TO GET HOUSING SEEMS TO BE TO "SCAM."

THE HIGH COST OF LIVING MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO GET AHEAD.

IT IS AN UNSAFE, UNHEALTHY CITY FOR CHILDREN, ESPECIALLY THE YONGE STREET STRIP.

A LOT OF STREET KIDS HANGING AROUND YONGE/GERRARD, INCLUDING CHILDREN AS YOUNG AS 11 AND 12 YEARS OLD.

IT USED TO BE A NICE CITY. NOW IT'S TERRIBLE -- MORE AND MORE CRACK AND COCAINE AROUND.

PEOPLE DON'T SCOOP THEIR PET'S POOP.

THERE IS DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PEOPLE BECAUSE OF HOW THEY LOOK AND HOW THEY DRESS.

THERE IS NOT ENOUGH INFORMATION FOR PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN CANADA ABOUT THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH PLACES TO GET INFORMATION AND COUNSELLING ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS.

THE TTC IS TOO CROWDED, AND TTC RIDERS DON'T RESPECT PEOPLE WITH CHILDREN. SOME DRIVERS ARE IGNORANT AND DON'T HELP PEOPLE WITH BABIES AND CHILDREN.

THAT MONEY GOES INTO BUILDING THINGS LIKE THE DOME INSTEAD OF GOING TO HELP PEOPLE.

LANDLORDS AND EMPLOYERS DON'T GIVE YOU A CHANCE IF YOU DON'T HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR IF THEY DON'T LIKE YOUR APPEARANCE, OR IF YOU ARE TOO YOUNG OR OLD.

THERE IS TOO MUCH GARBAGE AROUND.

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT TORONTO IS....

WE CAN GET MONEY FROM WELFARE. THEY WILL PAY 1ST AND LAST MONTHS RENT

JOBS. THERE IS A LOT OF WORK HERE, PARTICULARLY NIGHT WORK.

Metro Family Residence

"I like..."

IT IS A BEAUTIFUL CITY -- SOME PARTS ANYWAY. IT HAS BIG BUILDINGS, YONGE STREET SHOPPING (IF YOU HAVE MONEY), PARKS WITH SWINGS AND SLIDES FOR THE KIDS, ZOO, CN TOWER, CASA LOMA, DOME, THE ISLAND.
THE TTC. YOU CAN GO ANYWHERE FOR ONE DOLLAR.
SOME PEOPLE ON THE TTC ARE CONSIDERATE. THEY GIVE ME A SEAT WHEN I HAVE MY CHILD WITH ME. HOWEVER, MANY PEOPLE DON'T.

IF I WAS PLANNING TORONTO'S FUTURE, I WOULD...

CLEAN UP THE WORST PARTS OF TORONTO, AND CREATE GOOD HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WHO REALLY NEED IT.
PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT IS AVAILABLE, ABOUT THE LAW AND YOUR RIGHTS. THIS INCLUDES HOUSING.
PROVIDE MORE SHELTERS FOR RUNAWAYS AND WORKERS TO HELP THEM.
BUILD LOW-RENTAL HOUSING, SO EVERYONE -- BOTH RICH AND POOR-- CAN GET WORK AND A PLACE TO LIVE IN THE CITY.
HELP THE ADULTS SO THAT you CAN HELP THE KIDS.
CREATE A COMMUNITY WITH MY CLOSEST FRIENDS. I'D LIKE TO BE WITH PEOPLE WHO'D GIVE YOU THE SHIRT OFF THEIR BACKS.
MAKE IT A SAFE CITY, WHERE I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT BEING HIT AS I WALK DOWN THE STREET.
MAKE IT A FRIENDLY CITY. IF YOU ASK PEOPLE FOR DIRECTIONS, THEY WILL RESPOND.
HAVE MORE THINGS FOR THE CHILDREN, SUCH AS PARKS AND OTHER OUTDOOR AND INDOOR PLACES FOR THEM TO PLAY, AND ACTIVITY CENTRES FOR TEENAGERS (11 YEARS OLD AND UP), WHERE THEY CAN HAVE DANCES AND A SAFE PLACE TO HANG OUT.
PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE PLACES TO SCHOOLS WHERE KIDS CAN JUST DROP IN AND TALK TO SOMEONE ABOUT WHY THEY WANT TO DROP OUT OF SCHOOL (SINCE THEY DON'T LISTEN TO THEIR PARENTS).
MAKE STREETCARS AND BUSES WIDER TO MAKE ROOM FOR STROLLERS AND KIDS.
PUT MONEY INTO THINGS THAT ARE USEFUL TO PEOPLE, RATHER THAN THINGS LIKE THE COME. I WOULD USE THE BUDGET MORE WISELY.
SPEND MONEY ON HOUSING, ESPECIALLY FOR STREET KIDS, COMMUNITY CENTRES FOR KIDS PROGRAMS, AFFORDABLE DAY CARE CENTRES WITH FLEXIBLE HOURS FOR SHIFT WORKERS AND MORE SPACES FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES.
MAKE TORONTO AN AFFORDABLE CITY.
BUILD AFFORDABLE HOUSING AS THE MAIN THING. WHEN YOU PAY $800 PER MONTH RENT AND YOU'RE ONLY MAKING $1000 PER MONTH, YOU ONLY HAVE $200 PER MONTH LEFT FOR FOOD, TRANSPORTATION AND EVERYTHING ELSE.

Metro Family Residence

"Changes..."

MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE HAS ENOUGH MONEY TO SURVIVE ON, TO LIVE COMFORTABLY WITH ALL OF THEIR KIDS, INSTEAD OF HAVING TO DEPEND ON FOODBANKS.

MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE GETS TREATED EQUALLY. NO UPPER CLASS, LOWER CLASS SNOBBERY. TREATED AS EQUAL EVEN IF YOU ARE HANDICAPPED.

GIVE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO EVERYONE.

FIRST, I'D LIKE TO HAVE A HOUSE.

HAVE MORE CARING TEACHERS IN SCHOOL. PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT THERE JUST FOR THE MONEY. IT'S O.K. THAT THEY WANT TO GET PAID MORE BUT THEY SHOULD BE WILLING TO HELP YOU LEARN, TO TAKE TIME TO GO OVER SOMETHING SLOWLY IF YOU NEED IT.

MAKE SURE THAT THERE IS BETTER QUALITY TELEVISION FOR CHILDREN. THINGS THAT BOTH ENTERTAIN AND EDUCATE. MORE SHOWS FOR CHILDREN DURING TIMES THEY CAN SIT UP AND WATCH IT. THAT WAY, YOU CAN KEEP THEM BUSY WHEN THEY COME HOME FROM SCHOOL.

TAKE BEER COMMERCIALS OFF THE AIR. THESE ARE DISCRIMINATING AGAINST WOMEN, AND THEY LEAD TO SMOKING, DRUGS, VIOLENCE AND ABUSE.

HAVE MORE ANIMAL SHELTERS WITH PROGRAMS AND VOLUNTEERS.

ADVERTISE MORE ABOUT THE DANGERS OF DRINKING -- IT LEADS TO VIOLENCE AND ABUSE AND IS A HEALTH PROBLEM.

ELIMINATE ABUSE AND VIOLENCE. THEY SHOULD ADVERTISE ABOUT THE TRUTH OF ALCOHOL. IT COMES BACK TO PROBLEMS GETTING/KEEPING HOUSING.

WANT LANDLORDS AND EMPLOYERS TO GIVE ME A CHANCE INSTEAD OF THINKING THAT I'M LOWER CLASS BECAUSE OF HOW I LOOK OR BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

PUT MORE GARBAGE CANS ON THE STREET SO THERE WILL NOT BE SO MUCH GARBAGE AROUND.

PROVIDE MORE PUBLIC WASHROOMS.

GET GRANTS TO START UP A DAYCARE.

PROVIDE HOUSING THAT I CAN AFFORD. I WOULD THEN BE ABLE TO BRING MY FAMILY HERE -- MY MOTHER AND MY GRANDMOTHER -- AND MAKE A BETTER LIFE FOR THEM.

WOULD HAVE A NICE, SAFE AREA FOR MY KIDS TO GROW UP IN.

7.5 NA-ME-RES

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT TORONTO:

TRANSIT SYSTEM: GOOD CONNECTIONS BETWEEN BUSES, ETC.
OPPORTUNITIES --TRAINING, JOBS, NIGHT SCHOOL
LIKE THE WOMEN. SOPHISTICATED.
LIKE THE LAYOUT OF TORONTO -- HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL, EASY TO GET AROUND.
LOTS OF TAXIS
CN TOWER, SKYDOME, TOURIST ATTRACTIONS
COMPACTING, RECYCLING GARBAGE
TORONTO IS CLEAN
RECYCLING
ROBERTA JAMESON (ONTARIO OMBUDSMAN)
TORONTO NEWSPAPERS -- GOOD READING
NA-ME-RES
FREE EDUCATION

WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT TORONTO:

DON'T LIKE POLLUTION. IT IS LIKE A COAL MINE
HIGH RENT IN HOUSING
CRIME RATE
TOO CROWDED (EXPAND THE CITY OUT)
TRAFFIC
TOO MANY PEOPLE WORKING THE SAME SHIFT. should BE STAGGERED SHIFTS
DON'T LIKE STRIKES OF PUBLIC SERVANTS
WELFARE SYSTEM SHOULD MATCH INFLATION. NOT ENOUGH FOR HOUSING. IN WINNIPEG THEY FIND YOU HOUSING. (HERE) THEY GIVE YOU $150 AND SAY "GET OUT OF MY FACE"
NOT ENOUGH PARKS AND BIKE TRAILS
LIBRARIES CLOSE TOO EARLY. IN EDMONTON THEY OPEN EARLIER AND STAY OPEN UNTIL 10PM.
NOT ENOUGH AFFORDABLE HOUSING
DISCRIMINATION: 1. IN JOB HUNTING. AD WAS IN PAPER 1 I/2 MONTHS AND (I) WAS REJECTED.
2. IN HOUSING
TAXATION -- TOO MUCH TAX ON EVERYTHING IN ONTARIO
TOO EARLY CLOSING TIME AT BARS. WINNIPEG AND ALBERTA ARE BETTER
GOVERNMENT IS NOT FUNDING THE MEDICAL SYSTEM PROPERLY --SHORT OF BEDS AND DOCTORS
TOURIST ATTRACTIONS ARE TOO EXPENSIVE, COME ETC.
MOVIE PRICES ARE TOO HIGH
GARBAGE KEEPS PILING UP, NO PLACE TO PUT IT
NOT MUCH TO DO IF YOU ARE NOT A DRINKER, THINGS CLOSE TOO EARLY
MONEYMART RIP-OFFS

Na-Me-Res

"Don't like..."

NEED TO HAVE I.D. FOR BANK ACCOUNTS
HOMELOCATERS RIP OFFS --(CHARGE 10%)
TOO MANY JURISDICTIONS --CAN THE CITY ACTUALLY DO ANYTHING ON MOST ISSUES?
CITY HALL REVIEW AND PASS OFF ON MANY ISSUES -- TAKE TOO MUCH TIME ON MINOR ISSUES I.E. SMOKING IN TAXIS. SHOULD SPEND MORE TIME ON REAL IMPORTANT ISSUES I.E. HOUSING
THERE IS NO NATIVE DAYCARE IN TORONTO (THERE SHOULD BE)
DIFFICULTY IN MAKING TRANSITION FROM OUT OF PROVINCE/OUTSIDE BIG CITY, TO TORONTO I.E. IN SCHOOL SYSTEM " I FEEL LIKE A FOREIGNER IN MY OWN COUNTRY."
"POLICE" APPROACH TO DRUG PROBLEM: STIFFER FINES, MORE TIME, MORE ARRESTS, TOO HEAVY.
EMPTY BUILDINGS THAT COULD BE USED FOR HOUSING PEOPLE
POLICE ATTITUDES -- ESPECIALLY DISCRIMINATORY AGAINST NATIVE PEOPLE. OFFICER PUBLICLY EXPRESSED RACIST VIEWS AT (THE) TIME HE SHOULD HAVE/WAS PROVIDING ASSISTANCE
YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT:
SHOULD BE 15 AND UNDER
AT 16 YOU SHOULD BE FULLY CONSCIOUS OF WHAT YOU ARE DOING
YOUNG PEOPLE ARE USING THE COVER OF THE YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT TO TRY MORE VICIOUS ACTS
ONLY HAVING A FEW NATIVE LAWYERS
SOCIETY MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR MINORITIES, ESPECIALLY NATIVE CANADIANS TO ADVANCE TO PLACES OF POWER, POLITICIANS, HIGH LEVEL CIVIL SERVANTS
TOO MANY DIFFERENT LANGUAGES, CULTURES. (THERE) SHOULD BE A COMMON LANGUAGE --ENGLISH
TOO MUCH CONGESTION
HARBOURFRONT IS TO YUPPIE-ISH. (I) DON'T WANT ANTIQUES SHOPS. THEY ARE OVERPRICED.

WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN TORONTO

SUNDAY SHOPPING
EXPAND MULTICULTURALISM. (IN NOVA SCOTIA, THE STRESS IS ON BONDING GROUPS)
LIKE TO BE ABLE TO BUY BEER AT TAVERNS
MORE RECYCLING-RETURNABLE BOTTLES
MORE STORES OPEN LATER. BE ABLE TO HAVE MORE NIGHT LIFE. 24 HOUR OPERATIONS (NOT JUST FOR DRINKERS)
MORE DETOX SERVICES FOR PEOPLE
WOULD LIKE DETOX SERVICES ESPECIALLY FOR NATIVE PEOPLE
MORE NATIVE STREET COUNSELLORS
MORE EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NATIVE PEOPLE; JOB TRAINING. SOME PROVINCES ARE BETTER THAN OTHERS

Na-Me-Res

"Changes..."

EQUALITY STANDARDS ACROSS THE COUNTRY, EDUCATIONALLY FROM PROVINCE TO PROVINCE
TORONTO SHOULD SEE EASTERN CANADA -- EXPAND ITS HORIZONS
TORONTO SHOULD STUDY DIFFERENT IDEAS ABOUT DRUG PROBLEMS -- LIKE THE NETHERLANDS.
DECRIMINALIZE DRUGS
MORE CONSULTATIONS LIKE THIS. AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR. MORE INVOLVEMENT.
MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE. "NO FIXED ADDRESS' SYNDROME SHOULD CHANGE. MORE SUPPORT AND FOLLOW UP ON THE STREET
POLICE SHOULD BE REPRIMANDED FOR BRUTALITY
MORE PEOPLE AWARE OF THEIR RIGHTS
MORE NATIVE POLICE. (MORE UN-UNIFORMED POLICE)
BETTER LEGAL SUPPORT FOR NATIVES. NATIVE LEGAL AID.
WOLD LIKE NATIVE JUDGES
MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR NATIVES IN PROFESSIONS. (NOT JUST CLEANING)
MORE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WHEN OUT OF SCHOOL
MORE NATIVE HIRING IN CITIES
MORE NATIVE POLITICIANS AND CIVIL SERVANTS
MORE OPPORTUNITY WHEN NATIVES COME TO THE CITY
MORE SAFETY ON THE TTC
MANAGE GROWTH. LESS EXPANSION
NATIVE NEWSPAPER NEEDED.
WOULD LIKE MORE GOVERNMENT REGULATION OF TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, I.E. OLSEN, QUANTUM
MORE CONSULTATION PROGRAMS LIKE THIS ONE
HAVING MORE OR A SAY IN WHAT IS HAPPENING. DON'T SHUT POLITICS UP IN CITY HALL. MORE ISSUE POLLING, CONSULTATIONS
ONLY CABS, BUSES, DELIVERY TRUCKS ALLOWED IN DOWNTOWN.
MORE PROJECTS LIKE NA-ME-RES
PEOPLE WHO ARE USING LAKES FOR BOATING--TO BE MORE CONSCIOUS OF THEIR ENVIRONMENT. TOO MANY (PEOPLE) THROW THINGS IN THE WATER.
WOULD LIKE MORE TORONTO BASED THEATRE AND REAL-LIFE DOCUMENTARIES ON TV I/E/ CBLT
PRODUCTS THAT WILL DECOMPOSE FAST.

7.6 ROBERTSON HOUSE

15 WOMEN PARTICIPATED, MOST BETWEEN 20 AND 30 YEARS OLD. MOST OF THE WOMEN HAD LIVED IN ASSISTED HOUSING AND HOSTELS BEFORE.

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT TORONTO

CLEAN CITY
FREEDOM
NICE BUILDINGS
LOTS OF PARKS
TTC NOT BAD SOMETIMES
FRIENDLY PEOPLE
ACCESS TO INFORMATION
EDUCATION -- LOTS OF IT FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS
LOTS OF BARS
CULTURAL ACTIVITIES
LOTS OF RESTAURANTS
FREE COUNTRY
GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT TORONTO

LAWS --THE WHOLE LEGAL SYSTEM NEEDS CHANGING
TOO MANY BAD DRUGS
WELFARE AND FBA TOO LOW
TOO EXPENSIVE -- COST OF LIVING, HOUSING, CAR INSURANCE
TOO MANY COCKROACHES
SCHOOL SYSTEM IS NOT CARING ABOUT NEWCOMERS --AND OTHER GOVERNMENT SERVICES
EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS, CURRICULUM NOT AS HIGH AS THE REST OF THE COUNTRY
TEACHERS ARE UNCARING
PEOPLE HAVE TOO MANY RIGHTS, I.E. INNOCENT PEOPLE ACCUSED OF CHILD ABUSE CAN'T GET THEIR NAMES OFF THE LIST. RAPE VICTIMS.
TOO MANY RIGHTS FOR RELEASED PRISONERS
TTC IS TOO EXPENSIVE
ABUSERS OF WIVES AND CHILDREN NEED STIFFER SENTENCES
WELFARE ONLY PROVIDES EMERGENCY DENTAL COVERAGE FOR MOTHERS, NO ROUTINE OR PREVENTIVE CARE
WINTER WEATHER
GOVERNMENT PICKS AND CHOOSES WHAT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES ARE TAKEN AWAY
FREE TRADE, I DON'T SEE US GETTING ANYTHING OUT OF IT.
LACK OF SECURITY ON THE TTC
TTC -- NO SPACE OR WAY TO GET ON WITH BABY CARRIAGES
DRUGS RAMPANT IN METRO HOUSING -- MTHA HOUSING HAS NICKNAMES LIKE "THE CORRIDOR " AND THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY RESPONSE

Robertson House

"Don't like..."

SOME POLITICIANS EVADE PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS
BIG BUSINESS IS DETERMINING HOW THINGS RUN FOR EVERY ONE. THERE SHOULD BE A WAY Y FOR ORDINARY PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND THE FACTS ABOUT THE ECONOMY AND HAVE SOME SAY IN HOW THE ECONOMY IS RUN
TOO MUCH TAX
TOO MANY RULES (I.E. FOR CHILD TAX CREDIT -- THE RULES WORK AGAINST MANY PEOPLE WHO NEED THE MONEY. THEY DON'T FIT EVERYONE'S SITUATION, AND PEOPLE END UP WITH A GAP.
TOO MUCH MONEY SPENT ON SKYDOME, NOT ENOUGH ON HOUSING WHILE HOSTELS ARE PACKED
HOW TORONTO CONTROLS LAND, I.E. LAKESHORE, THE CHOICES GOVERNMENT MAKES FOR POLITICAL REASONS. (AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS LEFT TO THE LAST TO DO. BUSINESS GETS THE BEST SITES
NO HOUSING, PEOPLE IN HOSTELS FOR TOO LONG
CRAPPY HOUSING, OFFERED IN REALLY POOR SHAPE BY MTHA
MTHA IS NO PLACE TO RAISE CHILDREN, SYRINGES IN THE HALL WAY, TENANTS ARE THREATENED BY PEOPLE HANGING OUT IN THE LOBBY
HOUSING, MTHA SO FAR AWAY FROM SERVICES AND TRANSPORTATION
NO WAY TO GO SHOPPING, FAR AWAY FROM WHERE WE'VE COME FROM
MTHA OFFERS POOR STOVE AND FRIDGE, AND NO HELP TO REMOVE OR REPLACE
HOSTEL FOOD -- NO VARIETY, AND NO CHANGE FOR PEOPLE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES WHO MAY NOT BE USED TO EATING NORTH AMERICAN FOOD
DON'T LIKE PEOPLE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES GETTING HOUSING BEFORE CANADIANS
POOR INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO GET AND USE GOVERNMENT HOUSING SERVICES

WHAT I'D LIKE TO CHANGE ABOUT TORONTO

WINE AND BEER IN CORNER STORES (ONE FOR AND ONE AGAINST)
DRUGS-- MORE ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT OF CITIZENS AND POLICE TO GET RID OF DRUGS
RAISE THE DRINKING AGE
TOWN HALL MEETINGS OR ORGANIZATIONS TO INVOLVE PEOPLE IN DECISIONS: PEOPLE WANT TO BE INVOLVED BUT THERE'S NO WHERE TO GO
POLITICIANS SHOULD BE THERE TO HELP YOU
BETTER DAYCARE FOR SINGLE WORKING MOTHERS : LONGER HOURS/ CHEAPER AND CHILDCARE AT NIGHTS FOR MOTHERS WHO WORK SHIFTS
DAY CARE SHOULD BE CLOSER TO HOME AND AVAILABLE IN WORKPLACE -- BUSINESS SHOULD SHARE IN THE RESPONSIBILITY
LESS BIG BUSINESS AND MORE CITIZEN CONTROL OF THE ECONOMY
PEOPLE WOULD BE TREATED WITH DIGNITY "JUST BECAUSE WE ARE POOR DOESN'T MEAN WE ARE HELPLESS"
MORE SECURITY AND CLEANER MTHA
HOUSING WOULD BE NEAR GOOD SCHOOLS, SAFE, CLEAN, EASY TO GET TO, CLOSE TO SHOPPING AND TRANSPORTATION

Robertson House

"Changes..."

MORE OPTIONS FOR SUBSIDIZED HOUSING BESIDES ONTARIO HOUSING
BETTER WAYS OF SHARING HOUSING IN REGIONS OUTSIDE OF METRO. CHOICES FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO LIVE THERE
PARENTING COURSES FOR ALL NEW PARENTS, SUPPORT FOR ALL NEW MOTHERS

7.7 ST CHRISTOPHER HOUSE - THE MEETING PLACE

Participants: 14 men and 1 woman, all former street people. About half were homeless and staying in hostels; 1/4 lived in rooming and boarding houses, and 1/4 in other rental situations. Ages ranged from about 18 to 45. Three participants had income from casual labour; 12 were on welfare, FBA or nothing. Participants included Native Canadians, Caucasians and a Black.

General observations: People had more negative than positive things to say about Toronto. The main concerns are income, housing and food. Many comments expressed people's anger. There was a strong anti-government/anti-system view. Participants were experts at survival. They expressed willingness to participate in the CITY-PLAN 91 consulation process, and were willing to stay involved.

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT TORONTO:

FREE CONDOMS, NEEDLES
FREE LEARNING CENTRES
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM
THE POOP AND SCOOP LAW
RELATIVE AMOUNT OF PARK LAND IN THE CITY
"IT IS SUPPOSED TO BE A WORLD CLASS CITY --> BUT FOR WHO? WE DON'T SEE IT
LIBRARIES
DROP IN CENTRES
COFFEE SHOPS
DIVERSITY OF FOOD AVAILABLE

WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT TORONTO:

I DON'T LIKE.....

ABANDONED BUILDINGS THAT AREN'T USED--COULD BE USED FOR LOW COST HOUSING
POLICE BRUTALITY - RACISM ETC.
LANDLORDS WHO ASK FIRST AND LAST MONTHS RENT
CITY TOO GHETTO LIKE AND RACIST, I.E. "CHINA TOWN" "ITALIAN TOWN"
WASTE Of MONEY ON THE SKY DOME AND OPERA HOUSE
RUNAWAY DEVELOPMENT --> OFFICES AND CONDOS OLYMPICS

St. Christopher House - The Meeting Place

"Don't Like..."

NEW IMMIGRANTS GETTING HOUSING OVER CANADIANS WHO DON'T
NEW IMMIGRANTS LIVING OFF WELFARE
METRO HOUSING TAKES TOO LONG TO GET INTO
BUREAUCRATIC BULLSHIT
RUN DOWN HOSTELS, NOT SUFFICIENT HOUSING
POLITICIANS THAT DON'T LISTEN AND ACT ON OUR NEEDS
LACK OF AFFORDABLE FOOD AND PLACE TO GET IT
DON'T LIKE EATING SUBSTANDARD FOOD (SHIT) AT MISSIONS --> WANT REAL FOOD SERVED AT MISSIONS
PEOPLE WHO DRIVE CARS AND INCREASE POLLUTION
PEOPLE WHO CONTRIBUTE TO POLLUTION
MEDICAL PROFESSION WHO DOESN'T BELIEVE YOUR CONCERNS
EXPENSIVE TRANSPORTATION
LOW AMOUNTS FOR WELFARE AND RIDICULOUS LOW AMOUNT FOR HOUSING
DEINSTITUTIONALIZATION OF PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT READY
LANDLORD TENANT ISSUES I.E. CONVERSION HOTELS AND POWERLESSNESS IN BOARDING HOMES
SUPPORT FOR OTHER COUNTRIES FINANCIALLY NOT IN OUR COUNTRY
LACK OF RENT CONTROLS
FREE TRADE AND HOW IT IS PUTTING PEOPLE OUT OF WORK
LACK OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING FROM AGE 24 TO 64 YOU GET NO HELP, ESPECIALLY WHITE MALES
LACK OF PUBLIC WASHROOMS --> ESPECIALLY FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE
LACK OF INFORMATION ON SOCIAL SERVICES
LACK OF INFORMATION ON RIGHTS
DISCRIMINATION ON GROUNDS OF RACE...IN REGARDS TO HOUSING
LANDLORDS "SLUM LORDS"
SPECULATION ON HOUSING. [IT] SHOULD BE A CRIME
RATE OF TAX INCREASE. COMMODITIES SHOULDN'T BE TAXED
PRICE OF FOOD, SO EXPENSIVE
POOR AND MIDDLE CLASS OVER TAXED,[WHILE THE] RICH NOT
PEOPLE WHO TRY HARD, GET HOUSING. LANDLORDS AREN'T FAIR TO THEM, PEOPLE END UP BACK ON THE STREETS
PEOPLE WHO GET BLAMED FOR THEIR PROBLEMS FROM LANDLORDS, WELFARE
POLICE WHO HARASS YOU WHEN YOU JUST WANT A PLACE TO SLEEP -->WAREHOUSE, BRIDGE
AUTHORITIES
LIVING IN ROOMING HOUSES --> IT IS SUBSTANDARD, NO VISITORS, TOO MANY RULES, COSTS TOO MUCH MONEY
WELFARE WORKERS, SOCIAL WORKERS WHO PUSH PAPER AND DON'T CARE
HUMILIATION OF WELFARE [SYSTEM]
NOT ENOUGH DAY CARE FOR SINGLE PARENTS
YOU CAN'T GET RID OF CHILDREN'S AID WORKERS
FOOD BANKS. [THEY] ASK TOO MANY QUESTIONS
SINGLE MALES HAVE A ROUGHER TIME GETTING FOOD FROM FOOD BANKS
MEATLESS FOOD [AT MISSIONS, ETC.]
"KRAFT DINNER AND BEANS" [AS A REGULAR DIET]
CLOTHES THAT ARE SECOND HAND THAT COST A LOT OF MONEY

St. Christopher House - The Meeting Place

"Don't Like..."

GOODWILL AND SALVATION ARMY GET DONATIONS: COSTS PEOPLE ON WELFARE LOTS OF MONEY
POLITICIANS WHO ARE FINANCED BY DEVELOPERS
POLICE TAKING DRUG MONEY --> WHERE DOES IT GO?
STREETS [THAT] AREN'T SAFE

WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE ABOUT TORONTO

I WOULD LIKE....

AN INCREASE IN WELFARE AND FBA TO KEEP UP WITH THE STANDARD OF LIVING
MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING
MORE NATIVES IN THE POLICE FORCE
MORE PERMANENT HOMES, LESS HOSTELS
INCREASE IN FBA, WELFARE, UIC
MORE HEALTH CLINICS
MORE DROP INS WITH MORE MONEY
LET COMMUNITY GROUPS FIX UP OLD BUILDINGS AND LET PEOPLE MOVE IN
NEW MAYOR
NEW PRIME MINISTER
POLITICIANS NOT IN DEVELOPERS POCKETS
[TO SEE] SMALL CRIME [GIVEN] SMALL TIME
HALF OF SKYDOME PROCEEDS TO HOMELESS PEOPLE
DRUG MONEY CONFISCATED. [IT] SHOULD GO TO DRUG REHABILITATION AND HOMELESS PEOPLE
MORE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS AND LOWER CLASS
MORE BENEFITS TO HELP LOWER CLASS AND MIDDLE CLASS
HAVE SOMEONE WHO ASSESSES HOUSING AND DOESN'T LET PEOPLE LIVE IN DUMPS. --> STANDARDS OF A PLACE TO FIT THE COSTS.
AN AGENCY WOULD TAKE CARE OF IT
STIFF PENALTIES FOR LANDLORDS WHO EVICT IN WINTER
PROPER EVICTION NOTICES
NO MORE SLUM LORDS
MORE LAY PEOPLE SITTING ON COMMITTEES TO SEE WHERE GOVERNMENT FUNDS GO: MUNICIPAL, FEDERAL, PROVINCIAL
MORE CLOTHING ALLOWANCE AND TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCE FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE AND STUDENTS
MORE SUBSIDIZED DAYCARE FOR SINGLE MOMS
INCREASE IN THE MINIMUM WAGE
MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES
MORE ACCESS TO JOB TRAINING
MORE ADULT SCHOOLS....(MORE $)
SIMPLIFIED LEGAL SYSTEM
DRUG AND ALCOHOL CENTRES WITH MORE POST CARE AND SUPPORT, AND ACCESSIBILITY. "NOT JUST FOR THE UPPER CLASS"
MORE HANDICAPPED ACCESS TO EVERYTHING

St. Christopher House - The Meeting Place

"Changes..."

FREE TRADE--OUT
BETTER LEGAL AID LAWYERS
DISCOUNTS AND FREE TICKETS TO EVENTS IN THE CITY
MORE HELP FOR STREET KIDS
A CLEAN WATERWAY
MORE MONEY IN DROP-INS AND HEALTH CARE
MORE PARK LAND
PEOPLE MORE ENERGY CONSCIOUS --CONSUMERS ALSO
24 HOUR LAUNDROMATS
MORE ABORTION CLINICS
SAFER IN SUBWAY --FEWER MUGGINGS, LESS SUICIDE. MORE TTC SECURITY
SIDEWALKS CLEANER, DONE BY THE CITY
GUARDIAN ANGELS, LIKE BRITISH COLUMBIA
MORE STREET LIGHTS
BETTER FOOD IN JAIL
LESS LOCK UP TIME [IN JAIL]
PEOPLE WHO CANNOT PAY FINES SHOULD NOT BE IN JAIL, MORE CSO [COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDER] WORK
BETTER SOCIAL SERVICE SYSTEM
MORE PRIVATE AND CORPORATE FUNDING FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES
A STOP TO RUN-A-WAY INFLATION
MORE CARE FOR TORONTO'S PEOPLE [WE ARE] "ALL CANADIANS
LIKE TO HAVE A COPY OF THIS REPORT

7.8 SEATON HOUSE

PARTICIPANTS: 15 RESIDENTS OF SEATON HOUSE EMERGENCY SHELTER FOR MEN, AGES RANGED 18 - 55 WITH AVERAGE AGE +/- 30, SEVERAL MEN OF NATIVE AND CENTRAL AMERICAN BACKGROUND

WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT TORONTO

WELFARE STRUCTURE SUCKS. TORONTO IS THE MOST EXPENSIVE CITY IN CANADA, BUT WELFARE WILL NOT PROVIDE THINGS LIKE FREE BUS PASSES TO HELP LOOK FOR A JOB. BUS PASS IS CHEAPER THAN WELFARE IN THE LONG RUN IF IT HELPS GET WORK.
COST OF LIVING IS TOO HIGH, PARTICULARLY FOR PLACES TO LIVE. I WOULDN'T LET A COCKROACH LIVE IN MOST OF THE PLACES THAT I CAN AFFORD.
WELFARE SYSTEM FORCES YOU TO TAKE THE FIRST JOB AVAILABLE. THIS USUALLY ISN'T A JOB THAT I WANT, BECAUSE I WANT A JOB THAT IS INTERESTING AND MATCHES WHAT I AM ABLE TO DO.

Seaton House

"Don't Like..."

I DON'T LIKE SWEAT SHOPS AND BEING FORCED TO WORK FOR THE MINIMUM WAGE. MIDDLE-MAN (PRIVATE TEMP EMPLOYMENT SERVICES) AND THE SWEAT SHOP OWNERS TAKE MONEY THAT SHOULD GO INTO MY WAGES. KEEPS PEOPLE IN WELFARE CYCLE.

I DON'T LIKE THE TRANSIT SYSTEM. THEY NEED BIGGER CARS AND MORE CARS. IT'S TOO CROWDED, AND YOU HAVE TO WAIT TOO LONG IN THE COLD

POLICE HARASSMENT, PARTICULARLY AT QUEEN/SHERBOURNE. PEOPLE STANDING AT THE CASH CORNER LOOKING TO BE PICKED UP FOR WORK (RATHER THAN GOING THROUGH A TEMP SERVICE) ARE GETTING HASSLED. I BET THERE ARE MORE BREAK-AND-ENTERS BECAUSE GUYS ARE GETTING HASSLED AND CAN'T USE THE CORNER.

WELFARE IS SLOW IN HELPING WITH WORK BOOTS, CLOTHES, BUS FARE, ETC. AFTER YOU FIND A JOB.

I DON'T LIKE BEING LOCKED INTO WELFARE. I'VE HAD TO LIVE HERE FOR TWO YEARS. IT'S DIFFICULT TO GET BACK INTO THE MAINSTREAM.

WHY SPEND SO MUCH FOR THE OLYMPICS? BIG BUCKS FOR 3 WEEKS OF TOURISM. THE HOUSING THAT GETS BUILT FOR IT GETS TURNED INTO CONDOS.

THERE IS A 2 1/2 YEAR WAITING LIST FOR ONTARIO HOUSING. I COULD BE DEAD BY THEN!

I DON'T LIKE THE MONOPOLY GAME OF WELFARE. DO NOT PASS GO. DO NOT COLLECT $200.00. GO DIRECTLY TO JAIL.

THE CROWDED JAILS, AND BEING SHIPPED OUT OF THE TORONTO AREA BECAUSE OF THIS.

GOVERNMENT IS NOT DOING ENOUGH TO HELP. WHY SEND MONEY TO OTHER COUNTRIES FOR THEIR DISASTERS WHEN THERE IS NOTHING BEING DONE HERE?

THE LENGTH OF TIME GOVERNMENT TAKES BETWEEN PLANNING SOMETHING AND DOING IT. IT TAKE S 20 YEARS, AND BY THE TIME IT HAPPENS, IT DOESN'T MEET THE NEEDS.

I DON'T LIKE GUYS GETTING CLEANED OFF THE STREET AND STUCK IN JAIL BECAUSE OF THE SUMMIT, OR EXPO(VANCOUVER)

I DON'T LIKE BEING LOOKED AT AS A CRIMINAL BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE AN ADDRESS. THE POLICE COME IN HERE AND CHECK THROUGH THE REGISTRY. THERE IS NO PRIVACY.

THE WAY ALL THE CHEAP ROOMING HOUSING IS GETTING TORN DOWN BECAUSE OF DEVELOPMENT. THE OLYMPICS WILL ELIMINATE ALL THE PLACES THAT I CAN AFFORD. LOOK WHAT HAPPENED IN MONTREAL AND VANCOUVER. DO YOU THINK TORONTO WILL BE ANY DIFFERENT? MONEY GOING INTO AN OLYMPIC BID THAT COULD GO INTO HELPING HOMELESS PEOPLE. THIS WILL BE EVEN WORSE IT TORONTO DOESN'T GET THE OLYMPICS.

I DON'T LIKE THE SHIT FOOD AT SOME OF THE SHELTERS, LIKE THE SALLY ANNE. THE FOOD A SEATON IS DECENT, BUT MUCH OF WHAT YOU GET AT THE OTHER PLACES IS OUT OF DATE. WHY FEED IT TO US IF YOU WON'T SELL IT IN THE SUPERMARKET? WOULD YOU EAT GREEN BREAD?

Seaton House

"Don't like..."

PEOPLE FROM 1001 QUEEN WEST ARE SENT TO SEATON HOUSE IN THE SUMMER AND WE HAVE TO PUT UP WITH IT.
LIVING CONDITIONS AT SOME SHELTERS, TORONTO HUMANE SOCIETY IS BETTER THAN DIXON HALL.
THE IGNORANCE OF PEOPLE IN THIS CITY, AND THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARDS PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS. SOMEONE WHO THEY CALL A BUM COULD BE A FUTURE PRIME MINISTER. THERE ARE PEOPLE WITH A LOT OF SKILLS CAUGHT IN THE HOSTEL/WELFARE SYSTEM AND WASTED. THERE IS NO ENCOURAGEMENT, SUPPORT OR CARE SHOWN.
THE WELFARE SYSTEM IS SET UP TO KEEP PEOPLE ON WELFARE, NOT TO HELP YOU GET OFF WELFARE.

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT TORONTO IS....

THE TRANSIT SYSTEM
LOTS OF OPPORTUNITY IF YOU ARE ESTABLISHED, BUT IT'S HELL TO GO TO WORK AND COME BACK HERE AT NIGHT IF YOU'RE NOT)
THE NIGHT LIFE
THE DROP-INS. A WARM PLACE TO GO FOR FREE FOOD, PHONES, TALK AND COUNSELLING
PEOPLE WHO WORK IN VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS. THEY TRY TO HELP.

WHAT I WOULD DO IF I WAS PLANNING TORONTO'S FUTURE IS....

HAVE MORE JOB TRAINING AND JOB DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.
GET THE MINIMUM WAGE RAISED, ESPECIALLY IN TORONTO.
DIVERT GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE MONEY FROM BIG BUCK THINGS LIKE THE OLYMPICS AND NEW SUBWAYS TO BUILDING HOUSING THAT I CAN AFFORD, HELPING THE UNEMPLOYED, RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE, ETC.
HAVE MORE DETOX PLACES
RESTRUCTURE WELFARE TO GIVE THINGS UP FRONT THAT HELP TO GET ESTABLISHED : 2 TTC PASSES, WORK BOOTS, WORK CLOTHES AND $600.00. IN TWO MONTHS, IF NO JOB, THEN PUT THEM ON $300/MONTH WELFARE.
HAVE MORE HOSTELS (BUT NOT AS BIG AS SEATON HOUSE!) IN DECENTRALIZED LOCATIONS (NOT ALL DOWNTOWN).
REQUIRE THE SOCIAL WORKERS TO LIVE ON THE STREETS FOR 3 MONTHS BEFORE WORKING WITH HOMELESS PEOPLE.
MAKE SURE THE SOCIAL HOUSING SYSTEM IS FAIR AND FOR PEOPLE WHO REALLY NEED IT. FOLLOWUP ON PEOPLE WHO DON'T NEED TO BE LIVING IN ONTARIO HOUSING ANYMORE, BUT STILL ARE.
GIVE MORE MONEY TO PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS.
HAVE MORE DROP-IN CENTRES
START A LOTTERY FOR BUILDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

Seaton House

"Changes..."

HAVE MORE GOVERNMENT CONTROL OVER PRIVATE SHELTERS TO ENSURE HIGHER STANDARDS.
FIRE THE MAYOR.
START AN AWARENESS PROGRAM ACROSS CANADA BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE BLIND TO HOMELESSNESS.
HAVE FREE TICKETS TO THE SKYDOME, ETC.
HAVE MORE GROUPS INVOLVED WITH DEALING WITH HOMELESSNESS.
START A UNITED WAY JUST TO HELP HOMELESS PEOPLE.
HAVE MORE SOCIAL WORKERS TO WORK WITH HOMELESS PEOPLE
GIVE PEOPLE WHO ARE DEINSTITUTIONALIZED FROM THE MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM PROPER (SEPARATE) SUPPORTIVE HOUSING OR KEEP THEM IN THE HOSPITALS. THEY SHOULD NOT END UP AT PLACES LIKE SEATON HOUSE.
KEEP DROP-INS OPEN ALL NIGHT.
HAVE HOSTELS OPEN ALL DAY IN BAD WEATHER AND ON WEEKENDS.
HAVE MORE TREATMENT CENTRES FOR PEOPLE ON CRACK, ETC.
MAKE SURE THAT RESPECT FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE IS SHOWN BY THOSE INVESTIGATING THEIR SITUATION (I.e. media, planners)
EMPLOY HOMELESS PEOPLE TO HELP HOMELESS PEOPLE.. ANY 7 MEN IN THIS ROOM WOULD DO A BETTER JOB OF GETTING PEOPLE OUT OF THE WELFARE SYSTEM THAN MOST SOCIAL WORKERS.
STREAMLINE THE WELFARE SYSTEM SO THAT IT IS QUICKER TO RESPOND, WITH LESS CASELOADS FOR THE WORKERS SO THAT THEY CAN DO A BETTER JOB.

7.9 STREETCITY

Participants: 15 men participated, all former street people. All are now housed at street city. Most are employed, about half of them on Street City. The men ranged in age from 20 to 55;14 were White, one was Black.

General Observations: The main concerns of this group were the concerns of the working poor; poor pay,benefits, training, job security. They were concerned about police attitudes and negative stereotypes of the poor. They had positive things to say about the CIty, had some positive attitudes about the political system, and a sense of community. They are expert street people, and were willing to be involved in the CITY-PLAN 91 consultation process. They would like more involvement.

StreetCity

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT TORONTO:

STREET CITY IDEA
THE SKYDOME AND THE EVENTS
OPERATION SPRINGBOARD
H.E.L.P. PROGRAM
YOU CAN GET WORK IN TORONTO AND JOB EXPERIENCE
THERE IS GREEN SPACE --PARKS
CENTRE ISLAND
PARKS, CHURCHES, OLD BUILDINGS
SKYDOME LOCATION
IT IS A BEAUTIFUL CITY

WHAT I DON'T LIKE ABOUT TORONTO:

I DON'T LIKE....

HIGH RENTS (FOR SINGLE PEOPLE)
BEING HASSLED BY COPS IN PARKS BECAUSE I DO NOT WEAR A THREE PIECE SUIT OR BECAUSE I AM "LONG HAIRED"
SUNDAY CLOSING LAWS
POST OFFICE STRIKE AROUND CHRISTMAS
HIGH COST OF LIVING
LACK OF ACCESS TO HARBOURFRONT, THE DOME, THEATRES ETC.
METRO SOCIAL SERVICE SYSTEM AND WORKERS WHO DON'T CARE, WORKERS WHO ARE ARROGANT, WORKERS WHO DO NOT LISTEN
WORKERS ON MY CASE...
LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING
BOARDED BUILDINGS
WHEN YOU FIND A PLACE, YOU CAN'T AFFORD IT
DON'T LIKE FIRST AND LAST MONTHS RENT NEEDED
PAY DAMAGE DEPOSIT, THEY DON'T DO IMPROVEMENTS
SLUM/SCUM/LORDS
CROWDED STREET CARS
HIGH PRICE FOR METRO PASS
CABS WHO RUN OVER; PEOPLE WALKING AND BICYCLE RIDERS
CABS THAT WILL NOT COME INTO LOW INCOME AREAS
DON'T LIKE HOW CABS REFUSE TO GO TO REGENT PARK, JANE FINCH, BLOOR LANDSDOWN (MTHA)
LACK OF SUBSIDIZED HOUSING FOR SINGLE PEOPLE
MTHA SYSTEM SUCKS -->WHEN YOU WAIT TO GET IN, OR ONCE YOU ARE IN
TOO MANY HOMOSEXUAL PEOPLE WHO HIT ON YOU
POLICE FORCE AND RACIAL PREJUDICE. BLUE KLUX KLAN
POLICE HARASSMENT
SEXUAL OFFENDERS WHO GET SHORT PRISON TERMS
PEOPLE WHO HAVE TO GO TO JAIL BECAUSE THEY CAN'T PAY FINES
OVERCROWDED JAILS
PARKS, ROADS THAT ARE NOT KEPT UP
CONSTRUCTION IN PRIME TIME RUSH HOUR

StreetCity

"Don't like..."

FALSE ALARMS -- AMBULANCE, POLICE(NOISE AND WASTE OF MONEY)
LACK OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY, EVEN IN SWEAT SHOPS
SWEAT SHOP EMPLOYERS -- NO SECURITY POOR WAGES, NO BENEFITS
CONTRACT LABOUR=SLAVE LABOUR
WORKERS THAT HAVE NO CONTROL OVER PAY SCALE
LOW WAGES
LACK OF BENEFITS
NOT ENOUGH AFFORDABLE RETAIL STORES DOWNTOWN
NOT ENOUGH AFFORDABLE GROCERY STORES DOWNTOWN
DON'T LIKE SALES TAX --9%
DON'T LIKE STORES THAT CHARGE SALES TAX, BEFORE THEY HAVE TO
SMELL OF SEWAGE
SMELL OF TANNERIES
POLLUTION--DON RIVER
TAX FOR BEER AND CIGARETTES
THAT YOU CAN'T BUY BEER, SPIRITS ANYWHERE BUT BEER OR SPIRITS STORES
POLICE WHO DO NOT LET PEOPLE STAND ON QUEEN/SHERBOURNE TO GET JOBS
[CANNOT GET] BANK ACCOUNTS BECAUSE NO I.D.
MONEY MARTS
SO MUCH MONEY [WENT] TO SKYDOME ETC FROM CORPORATIONS, GOVERNMENT - NOT FOR HOUSING
$6.50 FOR HOT DOGS, $20.00 FOR PIZZA [AT THE SKYDOME]
LACK OF HOCKEY TEAM [IN TORONTO]
HARASSMENT OVER SOFT DRUGS, HASH, POT, OIL ETC.
HOSTELS [THAT] ARE DISGUSTING
SEATON HOUSE. [IT] SUCKS
SALVATION ARMY --> MONEY MAKERS, GOOD WILLS ARE MONEY MAKERS, TRY TO SELL STUFF TO POOR PEOPLE.
MEDICAL SERVICES [THAT] ARE NOT GOOD IF YOU DON'T HAVE I.D.
[HOSPITAL] EMERGENCY THAT DOES NOT GIVE GOOD TREATMENT: SLOW, INADEQUATE, COULD DIE BEFORE YOU ARE ADMITTED
LACK OF PUBLIC WASHROOMS AND SHOWERS
LACK OF SUPPORT WHEN YOU ARE FIRST OUT OF JAIL
LACK OF ENOUGH SUPPORT WITH $ TO GET TO JOBS AND FOOD
GENERAL ATTITUDE OF PEOPLE IN TORONTO --> OF THE RICH
DON'T LIKE YUPPIES -- COCK THEIR LEG ON US AND PEE BECAUSE WE DON'T DRIVE BMW'S
GENERAL PREFERENCE FOR REFUGEES AT WELFARE, GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS. "THEY COME OUT WITH TWO CHEQUES, I COME OUT WITH AN ARGUMENT"
$10 MILLION DOLLARS TO FOREIGN AID, NONE TO "OUR AID" "HOME AID"
BRIAN MULRONEY
CONDOMINIUMS
CHURCHES [THAT] LOCK DOORS
CHURCH CONVERSION INTO CONDOMINIUMS, AFTER YEARS OF TAX BREAKS
LACK OF A FREE DOWNTOWN BUS SHELTER

"Don't like..."

SKYDOME LOCATION
HANDICAPPED [HAVE TO] SLEEP IN BUS SHELTERS. TREATMENT OF THE HANDICAPPED
LAND LORD CAN THROW YOU OUT WITH A PET
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST SMOKERS: IN BUILDINGS, CABS, APARTMENTS, AIR PLANES, RESTAURANTS, BUSES ETC.
[THAT] SMOKERS HAVE NO RIGHTS, PEOPLE COMPLAIN, THEN CIGARETTE COSTS RISE.
FREE TRADE SUCKS, WE SOLD OUR COUNTRY AND DIDN'T GET A CENT FOR IT
CANADIANS LOSING JOBS DUE TO FREE TRADE
CITY RECREATION CENTRES [THAT] ARE NOT EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
INCOME CHEQUES [THAT ARE] NOT BIG ENOUGH ("BASIC DRUNK OR TWO DAY DRUNK")
DON'T LIKE BEING TOLD YOU CAN'T BE IN A BAR BECAUSE OF :JEANS, LEATHER JACKET,WORKBOOKS, NO SHIRT AND TIE, HELMETS, BLACK "T" SHIRTS, ETC.
PEOPLE WHO SAY JUST BECAUSE I AM POOR, I DON'T HAVE TO LOOK LIKE IT
DISCRIMINATION BASED ON APPEARANCE
PEOPLE FROM B.C., OUT EAST ETC., WHO CAN'T CAMP IN PARKS, GET FINED
[THAT TORONTO IS A] "RICH MAN'S CITY," A CITY OF GOLD
[HAVING] TO OWN PROPERTY OR SELL COKE TO SURVIVE
THE HIGH COST OF LIVING
THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO GET A DRIVERS LICENSE, [IT] COSTS TOO MUCH
NEED I.D. TO GET I.D.--IT COSTS MONEY, TAKES TOO MUCH TIME
[WHEN] I.D. GETS RIPPED OFF, PEOPLE COMMIT CRIMES IN YOUR NAME
[WHEN THE] RICH HAVE THE MAJORITY
LAWS FOR THE RICH [THAT] ARE DIFFERENT THAN THOSE FOR THE POOR
UNEQUAL TAXES, RICH GET THE BREAKS. THE HIGHER (YOUR) INCOME, THE LESS YOU PAY
PROCRASTINATING POLITICIANS

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO CHANGE ABOUT TORONTO?

I WOULD LIKE...

MORE WATER FOUNTAINS
[TO BE ABLE TO] WORK FINES OFF WITH COMMUNITY SERVICE WORK, NOT DO JAIL TIME
MORE MANPOWER OFFICES, WHERE YOU GET THE MONEY (CASUAL JOBS)
BEER/SPIRITS TO BE SOLD IN CORNER STORES
I LIKE IT WHEN STREET PEOPLE CAN TAKE CONTROL AND HAVE INPUT
"STREET CITY." "I LIKE STREET CITY"
LIKE TO SEE MORE PROGRAMS LIKE H.E.L.P.
MORE DROP-INS
NO TRAFFIC ON YONGE STREET

StreetCity

"Changes..."

A WALKING DOWNTOWN MALL
NO CARS DOWNTOWN
A DESIGNATED AREA FOR GRAFFITI AND POLITICAL MESSAGES
[TO] KEEP LESLIE STREET SPIT AS A BIRD SANCTUARY. IT SHOULD BE MORE OF A PARK, ACCESSIBLE TO ALL
FREE BUS SERVICES ON SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS
DESIGNATED DRIVERS SHOULD DRINK FREE (NON-ALCOHOLIC), FREE CABS HOME, BAR PEOPLE SHOULD HELP TAKE YOU HOME
MORE HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS
EMERGENCY SERVICE TO GO OUT AND PICK UP HANDICAPPED PEOPLE WHO ARE SLEEPING IN SHELTERS
MORE PLACES LIKE STREET CITY
MORE BIKE PATHS
MORE BIKE LANES ON MAJOR STREETS
MORE KID CENTRES RUN BY STREET PEOPLE
MORE RECREATION CENTRES THAT ARE FREE -- LIKE JOHN INNES RECREATION CENTRE
MORE PLACES TO DRINK --- IF YOU LIVE OUTSIDE YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO DRINK ALCOHOL THERE
PEOPLE COULD SLEEP IN THE PARKS, CAMPING AREAS --CAMPGROUND IN HIGH PARK
MORE MEETINGS LIKE THIS, MORE INPUT FROM THE POOR
[WE ARE] HOMELESS NOT HELPLESS --WE SHOULD HAVE MORE INPUT
MORE SKILL TRAINING FOR LOW INCOME PEOPLE, I.E. OTHER CAREER OPPORTUNITIES, ACCOUNTING STUFF
WORLDS FAIR AND OLYMPICS WHICH COULD CREATE MORE JOBS, MORE HOUSING
MORE CITY JOBS [SHOULD BE GIVEN] TO WELFARE PEOPLE
POLITICIANS WHO DON'T JUST SOUND GOOD, BUT DO THE WORK
MORE SENIORS AGENCIES

MULTICULTURAL OUTREACH FORUM

As part of the Cityplan '91 Outreach Strategy, a number of focus groups were held with individuals representing Toronto's ethno-cultural communities. The purpose of this activity was to provide for optimum input from more than one community in the limited time.

Participants were drawn from the five major non-English speaking Central Area communities as identifed by the 1986 Census, as well as a number of communities defined as having special needs. Participating communities included the Portuguese, Chinese, Italian, French, Spanish, Native, South Asian, Afro-Canadian, Tamil and Vietnamese. Participants were invited because of their involvement in their communities and their willingness to share their views as individual Torontonians.

An independent Consultant, Ms. Karen Shaver, was engaged as facilitator. The report of the Multicultural Outreach Forums follows.

CITY OF TORONTO
CITYPLAN'91

REPORT TO THE

TASK FORCE

ON

MULTICULTURAL OUTREACH FORUMS

K. M. Shaver and Associates
Suite 1002
135 George Street South
Toronto, Ontario
M5A 4E8

JANUARY, 1990

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CITYPLAN'91
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I - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The design of an effective meeting with leaders of the Multi-cultural Communities to support the City's objectives to develop CITYPLAN'91 - the planning and development blueprint for the City - must identify and incorporate the attitudes, opinions and needs of these communities. We need to understand what communities value about the City. We need to identify and assess priorities and experiences and the degree of input and responsibility that they are seeking in the planning process. The purpose of meeting with these community leaders is:

* to introduce the concept of CITYPLAN'91 to the Multi cultural Communities
* to identify different community attitudes,preferences and priorities for planning and development issues
* to develop solutions and input
* to determine communication channels

A meeting was considered the most effective method for probing participant attitudes and values about the City. A structured format could identify and develop issues and solutions for future direction.

Twenty-eight people participated in two meetings, held at City Hall on January 15 and January 19,1990. Participants were selected, based on their affilitation and known involvement in their communities, to represent the views of major cultural or ethnic communities.

During the meetings, participants completed a questionnaire, ranking the most and the least important issues facing the City, both from importance to the City, and the issue's particular importance to their own communities. Results were discussed and probed for underlying meaning.

We offer the following general conclusions resulting from these meetings:

* Needs and attitudes vary between ethno-cultural groups based on degree of integration and race.

* Individual needs are considered more important than ethno/culturally-based needs and in some cases, the identification of ethno/cultural background is considered segregation.

* Membership in an ethno-cultural group may be more relevant to social equity and quality of life issues than to development issues.

* Affordable housing, and crime and safety are considered important issues for the City issues by most participants.

* Racism and access to services are more important issues for ethno/cultural groups that for the City as a whole.

* Many participants feel that while their input is relevant and important, it may not have signifigant impact on the actual process or outcomes.

* Some participants are sensitive to the context of "multi-culture" - where it may be broadened to include the negative aspects of "multi-class" or "multi-racial" labels and problems.

* Participants are interested in the process of CITYPLAN'91 but are not actively seeking avenues for input.

* Participants from different cultural backgrounds can bring innovative and creative suggestions to the process.

* Acceptance and support for CITYPLAN'91 will depend on the ability of the plan to be sensitive to diverse and changing needs, firmly identified and grounded in the relevant and specific target group and not generalized to "multi-cultural" communities.

* Participants, except those actively engaged in the development business, do not and cannot relate to the direct impact of development and growth on their specific needs.

* Participants take responsibility for their own role inbeing informed and are generally satisfied with the level of information that the City provides

* Participants will evaluate the effectiveness of their input when they see evidence of their opinions being presented and incorporated in the planning process.

* Participants generally have a positive and optimistic view of the City of Toronto.

Based on these conclusions, specific recommendations for CITYPLAN'91 are discussed in the report.

II INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this assignment was to assist CITYPLAN'91 in identifying issues of importance to the major multi-cultural communities in the City of Toronto, to assess the differences in issues, based on ethno/cultural affiliation, and to develop suggestions and solutions for these issues.
Unlike the homogeneity of most other cities in Canada, seven out of ten Torontonians come from diverse ethno-cultural backgrounds. The needs of these communities in relation to the objectives of CITYPLAN'91 are assumed to vary with their diversity.

CITYPLAN'91 retained K.M. Shaver and Associates to conduct meetings with leaders of multi-cultural communities in Toronto. CITYPLAN'91 is a comprehensive planning document to guide the development of the Central Area of the City of Toronto for the next 10 years. Planning and development is a complex subject, and implementing a new plan is costly. Therefore, to successfully design a new plan that will meet the majority of needs and objectives, it is necessary to determine the value and priorities that different "publics" place on the issues facing the City. Incorporating public input into the final plan will result in a program that will be valued and will enhance public support and acceptance.

The focus of this assignment was divided into FOUR main areas:

* To develop methods for incorporating multi-cultural communities in the planning process;

* To identify multi-cultural issues as they relate to the issues and objectives of CITYPLAN'91;

* To determine current strengths and weaknesses in the relationship between the multi-cultural communities and the planning process; and

* To develop suggestions and alternatives for change.

III SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Two group meetings were attended by a total of twenty eight leaders of multi-cultural communities who live in, or are important to the Central Area of Toronto. Meetings were held on Jan.15 and Jan.19, 1990 from 12:30 P.M. and 3:30 P.M., although not all participants were able to stay for the full meetings. Both meetings were conducted in English.

We used a structured interview format, which permitted open and unsolicited comment from participants while ensuring that the discussion remained focused on the topic of community needs and the planning and development process. A questionnaire was also used and a copy is contained in Appendix A.

Participants

In order to reflect all relevant needs, CITYPLAN'91 needs to know if there are subgroups who have differing preferences and priorities, levels of awareness, and information needs. This knowledge allows CITYPLAN'91 some flexibility in the plan design and communication strategy.

Participants were invited because of their involvement - religious, education, industry, financial, social - in their ethnic or cultural communities.

Representatives attended from the following communities:

* Chinese
* Tamil
* Afro-Canadian
* Spanish
* Native Canadian including Metis
* Portuguese
* Vietnamese
* Italian
* South Asian
* Francophone incuding Parisienne
  Haitian
  Canadian
  Morrocan

CITYPLAN'91
MULTICULTURAL FORUMS

Process

Participants were asked to comment on the following issues:

* awareness of planning and political process
* importance of issues to City and specific community
* communication channels
* expectations and perceptions of benefits of involvement in CITYPLAN'91 process

Participants completed a questionnaire, identifying the most and least important issues facing the City, and the priority of those issues within their specific communities. Results were tabulated and discussed to develop and enlarge on the reasons behind the group's responses. Questionnaires were collected for further analysis. Appendix B contains a statistical breakdown of questionnaire results.

IV - DETAILED SURVEY FINDINGS

Participants were asked to rank a list of issues by their importance to the City in general, and their own ethno/cultural communities in particular.

* affordable housing is the most important issue overall to both the City and to the multicultural communities.

* important issues are grouped around social equity and quality of life

* access to city services and the planning process is important within multi-cultural communities

* employment opportunities and racism were seen as being specifically more important within communities than to the City as a whole

Complete details of questionnaire results are contained in Appendix B.

SOCIAL EQUITY

Issues of social equity created the most discussion during both meetings. **Affordable housing** is considered the most important issue to the City, and to communities within the City. Two points are signifigant - first that participants agree (and in fact assume) that housing in the Central Area is necessary and desirable. Secondly, that housing should be accessible/ affordable and mixed. Several participants were concerned that Toronto's neighbourhoods were becoming too economically stratified, leading to other signifigant concerns like crime and safety.

Newer immigrant groups have a higher need for **support and access to services.** Older, more integrated communities do not place the same priority on these issues, nor are they assumed to be a high priority for the City in general. It follows that a new group would need more assistance in integrating into a new community than established citizens, who have presumably identified their needs, and channels for resolving City-related problems. **Access to information and facilities** was not viewed as a priority or problem for the City or any particular ethno/cultural group.

Employment and job opportunities were considered higher priorities for ethno/cultural groups, than for the City. Many participants saw jobs/economic stability as the first important step to integration and full partnership in the City. Barriers to employment were attributed to racism and discrimination, and ineffective employment equity programs. The newer groups for whom English is not the first language are concerned about the increase in service sector jobs, which usually require a good command of English, and the decrease in manufacturing jobs, which have traditionally provided initial employment opportunities to non-English speaking groups. The more established and integrated communities view the ability to speak English as a primary channel to employment and job opportunities. Participants also mentioned the problem of professional equivalency for people with foreign qualifications. This barrier to employment was mentioned in context with a "multi-cultural" philosophy that only embraces certain cultural differences, and doesn't recognize other differences and experiences as positive or enriching.

Adequate income is considered an essential support for particularly new or disadvantaged groups, who need assistance in meeting basic needs until they can work themselves into a more established position. Participants see this process as a contiuous chain - adequate income and affordable housing are prerequisites to the stability needed to make the most of job opportunities.

Crime is considered to be getting worse in the City. Participants expressed concern that multi-culturalism has in fact aggravated the situation by clearly categorizing groups of people, who are then open to attack or blame.

Racism is considered a problem for Toronto, and particularly for non-white communities. Representatives of non-white communities rank racism as a much higher priority for their own communities than they rank this issue for the City in general. As an issue, racism affects employment opportunities and access to housing, creating signifigant barriers for some groups to partake fully in the City. Additionally, some participants believe that this barrier of race interconnects with most other issues affecting social equity and quality of life.

Issues of social equity are not as signifigant for groups for whom major discrimination battles have been won - Italian and Francophone representatives both spoke from a position of gains made. Newer communities, and particularly non-white communities fear that "multi-culturalism" has the danger of further ghettoizing their communities.

Participation in city planning and decision-making was seen as less important than most other issues facing the City. Participants were sceptical about the value of their input, and resigned and cyncical that City Council would not actually act on public input, unless it had a force that could not be ignored. They did not see themselves as having more or less political power or input because of their ethno/cultural affiliation. There is a general view that developers and businesses and not the public, have the attention of this and previous councils.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Within this group of principles, participants recognize the importance to the City of the **natural environment and transportation**, but focussed their discussion and input as individuals or members of a community on issues of social equity.

Arts and culture are considered and accepted as the natural by-product of the "multi-culturalism" mandate. This focus is seen to sometimes exclude other implications and potential benefits of multi-culturalism.

There is a general feeling that, for immigrant groups, the first years are spent learning how to operate in a new country with new customs, new systems, and sometimes a new language. Quality of life issues are secondary to the primary survival needs.

Of great importance to ethno/cultural communities are issues related to **Social Environment.** Acceptance and a sense of belonging are important features of a minority experience. Participants have experienced varying degrees of acceptance, and some feel distinctly unwelcome and unsafe. **Self-esteem** is considered the basic quality, particularly by representatives of non-white groups, that determines a person's ability to most successfully integrate into the City's social structure.

MANAGING GROWTH

Participants are especially concerned about **growth** and its impact on employment and housing. There is concern that as businesses take over the City centre, housing of any kind will become more scarce, and the Central Area will become a financial ghetto. Participants agree that the city centre needs a residential mix to be healthy and vibrant. Opinions and feelings about the scope and shape of the city varied by personal interest as citizens, not because of ethno/cultural affiliation.

Employment is an area of concern, especially since this issue is so basic to meeting individual needs. Participants are concerned that jobs for non-English speaking people are disappearing, and that foreign professional qualifications are not being recognized for the increasing number of jobs in service sector. Consequently, some members of ethno/cultural groups are forced to take jobs (taxi drivers, bus boys etc.) that restrict their access to full economic participation, and restricts the contribution that they could make to the city.

ISSUES IN COMMUNICATIONS

Most participants are satisfied with the amount of information they get about the working s of the City. Although the information is timely and complete, it is not always written in a simple, comprehensible style.
Some of the older,non-English speaking groups did not think multi-lingual communications should be a priority, and that people should be encouraged to learn to read and write English. Newer groups felt that they need **information and services** in a number of languages to ease a transition period. Both seemed to be in agreement that learning English was a goal for non-English speaking residents of Toronto, and that people couldn't expect to participate fully without some aptitude in the English language.

Personal attention to information and communications was seen as a function of the interest and priorities of the individual, and not a function of accessibility or literacy.

Participants attended and participated in the meetings with enthusiasm, but were generally cynical about the value of their input. There was a general "you can't beat City Hall" attitude about the value of their participation.

SPECIFIC SOLUTIONS

In the course of the discussion, participants were invited to suggest approaches and solutions to their concerns. The following represents a selected compendium of comments, grouped by theme:

MULTICULTURALISM

1. Creating many groups within the city makes it difficult to integrate.
2. Should be looking at and consulting neighbourhoods instead of "multicultural" communities.
3. Challenge City to promote multiculturalism on all levels - 20 years ago, couldn't get a permit for a food stall, and now Chinatown and Little Italy are important to economy of the City.
4. Multiculturalism is overplayed - should be Toronto - not a mixture.
5. Within multicultural community, diversity of needs, depend ing on different stages - integration takes time; can't be controlled or accelerated.

HOUSING

1. Differences between affordable (purchasable) housing and af fordable, accessible (rental) housing.
2. Promote affordable housing by requiring developer to support certain economic group - control through zoning - force de veloper to produce a certain affordability, and increase density provision to permit additional affordable units.
3. Proactive policing of racial discrimination in rental hous ing.
4. Affordable housing can be addressed through planning but not affordable rentals - adjust shelter allowances to reflect reality of Toronto rental costs.
5. People should have option of where to live - don't displace neighbourhoods in the inner core.
6. City needs to take proactive stand on issues - knows that affordable housing is issue but attention is focused on Olympics or other development - why ask us about City responsibilities.

CITYPLAN'91
MULTICULTURAL FORUMS

CRIME/SAFETY

1. Media is creating perception of correlation between multi culturalism as a philosophy and fact and increased crime in the city - need greater understanding and attention to cul ture realities compared to individual actions - try to deal in facts, not opinion.
2. Media should address ethno/cultural communities in more pos itive way - now equate crime with certain races/economic status - blaming the victim mentality.
3. City bylaws should require that every building have an alarm system connected to police station.
4. Incorporate security into all planning - street layouts; lighting; avoidance of blind alleys.
5. Avoid mistake of St. Jamestown - too many people leads to crime.
6. Mix housing with families and different socio-economic types - avoid ghettoization and resulting crime in areas where too many people of the same type, or where no one is home all day.
7. Concentrate on reducing problems with drugs and crime prob lems will also be reduced - high rise creates problems - en force bylaws and increase police force.

INTEGRATION

1. Should be looking at gelling and breaking down barriers in stead of emphasizing differences.
2. Promote mixed use/racially integrated neighbourhoods to en courage familiarity and interaction between different ethno/cultural groups.
3. Community centres in every neighbourhood to allow neighbours to meet and solve common problems, protected places to allow people to come together.
4. Need sense of pride in heritage to integrate successfully - Heritage programs in school are working toward self-confidence.

ACCESS TO SERVICES

1. Non-English speaking newcomers need more support - don't have confidence and are afraid to get involved - needs more outreach from City.
2. Need more funding from City to allow groups to form in own communities to offer assistance (i.e. women's group in Vie tnamese community).
3. If certain groups are not seen as contributing, it may be cause city is not listening - city needs to be more proac tive in involving all communities.
4. Go to people in own communities instead of inviting people to lunch.

CITYPLAN'91
MULTICULTURAL FORUMS

DEVELOPMENT

1. Zoning bylaws to control future of neighbourhoods.
2. Be more specific about type of industry - not just "indus trial" that doesn't take account of the skills and talents represented in the neighbourhood.
3. City should be more vigilant with developers taking whole blocks - City must play more proactive role in developing areas.

EMPLOYMENT

1. Better job opportunities begin with better schools - high standards, integrated schools.
2. Recognize professional qualifications from other countries.
3. Serious proactive approach to employment equity needed - ad dress institutionalized racism - could be more of a problem than overt racism.

V - CONCLUSIONS

Participants commented at length and with conviction about the issues facing the City and their specific ethno/cultural community. We offer the following conclusions about their direct comments, and our observations about the integration of "multicultural" issues in the CITYPLAN'91 process.

ISSUES

1. Affordable housing, crime, and racism are seen as issues for the City of Toronto, as well as the ethno/cultural communities represented by meeting participants.
2. Participants believe that certain issues are of greater or lesser importance to their ethno/cultural communities that to the City of Toronto in general. This suggests that in some cases,. there is a correlation and a distinction between a person's ethno/cultural background and his experience as a resident of the City.
3. Participants are better able to relate to issues that affect them personally, rather than the global issues of managing growth and development.
4. Social equity is an area of major concern, particularly among non-white participants.
5. Social equity deficiencies are not seen as being created by planning and development, but their severity, seriousness and urgency are seen as being aggravated by misdirected political priorities and focus on development.
6. Participants place a high value on helping people to continue to live in the City and a priority for the planning process to encourage residential housing - for the benefit of everyone's quality of life.

MULTICULTURALISM AND ETHNICITY

1. The multicultural label creates sensitivity and confusion. Representatives view themselves as citizens of Toronto at various stages of integration, and don't understand why their ethnic background should be important to planning issues. Multiculturalism is associated with festivals and cultural events at best, and racism and crime at worst.
2. Some participants feel that neighbourhoods have more to offer to the planning process than ethno/cultural groups, and resent being segregated by ethno/cultural background (i.e.responsibility for resolving poverty is a problem for the City, not for the group(s) affected by it).

3. "Multi-cultural" communities are not a distinct, homogeneous minority. Every group, including Anglo-Canadians make up part of the "multi", but Anglos are not normally represented in "multi-cultural" forums.
4. Participants appreciate and are proud of their ethnic backgrounds. Some groups have adapted to the Anglo-Canadian government planning process, often through considerable change in their traditional ways. That aspect of their ethnicity is rarely, if ever, considered for integration into the planning process.

PLANNING PROCESS
1. Participants prefered that the planning process to recognize the specific needs of individual groups (defined by the issue) and then the specific needs of the individuals within those groups.
2. Participants are disenfranchised. They perceive that their needs are diminished or subordinated to other groups, or the political process itself.
3. Some participants feel that it is improper or worthless to address any grievances or suggestions through the current process, which is seen as largely bureacratic and not participatory.

CITYPLAN '91
MULTICULTURAL OUTREACH FORUMS

APPENDIX A

QUESTIONNAIRE

Following is a list of potential issues for the City of Toronto.

ISSUE	ISSUE
Affordable housing	Access to facilities
Access to services	Access to information
Employment/job opportunites	Crime/Safety
Racism	City growth
Environment	Arts and Culture
Transportation	Heritage
Economic development	Recreation
Participation in City planning and decision-making	Parks
Pollution	Getting a building permit

A. From this list, choose the THREE issues that you feel are **MOST** important to the **CITY:**

1. Most important _____
2. Second _____
3. Third _____

Now, choose the issue from this list that you feel is **LEAST** important:

4. Least important _____

B. Looking over the list again, choose the THREE issues that you feel are **MOST** important to **YOUR CULTURAL OR ETHNIC GROUP:**

5. Most important _____
6. Second _____
7. Third _____

Now, choose the issue from this list that you feel is **LEAST** important:

8. Least important _____

C. **ABOUT YOU**

The following information about you will help us further understand and analyze the results of these meetings. These questionnaires will only be seen by the meeting leaders, and will be destroyed following preparation of our report.

9. To what ethnic or cultural group do you belong (race, country of origin, nationality, etc.)?

_____

10. What is your occupation?

_____

11. Where do you work? (City, Borough, or Region)

_____

12. What is the postal code at your residence?

_____

13. What other languages do you use besides English?

LANGUAGE	READ	WRITE	SPEAK
_____	____	____	____
_____	____	____	____
_____	____	____	____
_____	____	____	____

APPENDIX B - QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

Participants were asked to rank the three issues that they felt are most important to the CITY. They were then asked to rank the three issues that they felt are most important to THEIR OWN communities.

The following lists the issues that participants ranked as either first, second or third, aggregated and shown in order of importance.

1. Choose the three issues that you feel are MOST important to:

CITY	OWN COMMUNITY
1. Affordable housing	1. Affordable housing
2. Crime/safety	2. Employment
3. Racism	3. Racism
4. Employment	4. Access to services
5. Transportation	5. Crime/safety
6. Pollution	6. Part. in planning
7. Environment	7. Environment
8. City growth	7. Transportation
9. Access to services	9. City growth
10. Economic development	9. Heritage
10. Integration - housing	9. Economic development
10. Parks	12. Arts and culture
	13. Pollution
	13. Access to information
	13. Integrated housing

From that same list of issues, participants were asked to rank the one issue that they felt is least important to the CITY. They were then asked to rank the one issue that they felt is least important to THEIR OWN communities.

2. Choose the issue that you feel is LEAST important to:

CITY	OWN COMMUNITY
1. Getting a bldg permit	1. Getting a bldg permit
2. Participation in planning	2. Heritage
3. Access to information	3. Part. in planning
3. Heritage	3. Access to information
5. Economic development	5. Economic development
5. Recreation	5. Recreation
5. Pollution	5. Parks
	5. Environment
	5. Employment
	5. Access to facilities

CITYPLAN '91
MULTICULTURAL FORUMS

APPENDIX C - PARTICIPANTS

Meeting - Monday, January 15, 1990

PARTICIPANT	ETHNO/CULTURAL COMMUNITY
Jose Carlos Sousa	Portuguese
Greg Betencourt	Portuguese
Isabella Lau	Chinese
Winnie Ng	Chinese
Clement Lee	Chinese
Consuelo Robio	Hispanic
Maria Hernando	Hispanic
Frank De Luca	Italian
Al Ruggero	Italian
Mario d'Ambrosia	Italian
Mario Malisani	Italian
Bhim Samnotra	South Asian
Ken Kandeepan	Tamil
Roselind Rajanayagam	Tamil
Luong Tran	Vietnamese
Phuong Dung Nguyen	Vietnamese

Meeting - Friday, January 19, 1990

Randy Padmore	Afro-Canadian
Sandra Carnegie-Douglas	Afro-Canadian
Bob Ellis	Afro-Canadian
Wendy St. Cyr	Afro-Canadian
Kenn Richard	Native Canadian
Trish Roman	Native Canadian
Debbie McGregor	Native Canadian
Anna-Marie Couffin	Francophone
Anne Ladouceur	Francophone
Mohamed Brihmi	Francophone
Florence Badio	Francophone

CITYPLAN '91 INTERFAITH COMMITTEE
c/o Holy Trinity Church
10 Trinity Square,
Toronto M5G 1B1

2 February 1990

Taskforce Compendium
on Outreach Initiative
City Hall,
Toronto, Ontario

Dear Co-chair Nadine Nolan and Liz Amer:

Please find enclosed The Proposed Vision and Value Statement for the City of Toronto (CityPlan '91), from our committee, which was a result of three meetings with your outreach coordinators.

This is our initial contribution to the Taskforce Compendium of Outreach Initiatives.

Approved by the CityPlan Interfaith Committee

Jack Adam	Dave Danevan	Massey Lombardi
David Barker	Dr. Dan Dryer	Lynn Jemison Marsh
Cheryl Bradbee	Phil Edwards	Paul McGrory
Tina Conlin	D. Foley	Bill Riesberry
Bob Cuyler	Jennifer Harris	Rick Tobias
Kathy Danevan	Ryan Hubert	John Wilton

Signed on behalf of the Committee

The Rev. Canon A.R. Cuyler
Director of Community Ministries,
Anglican Diocese of Toronto

cc: Mayor Art Eggleton
John Gladkee, Director of CityPlan '91

PROPOSED VISION & VALUES STATEMENT FOR THE CITY TORONTO (CITYPLAN '91)

The pervasive purpose of the City of Toronto legislation and policy must be the protection and promotion of human well-being within the framework of just relations and fair public policies. This purpose is rooted in a commitment to healthy communities and justice for people of all ages.

Human well-being requires respect for the following

Principles:

1. Human Dignity-involves the responsibility to love and respect all people.

2. Mutual Responsibility-involves the duty to care and to share with all people.

3. Economic Equity-involves the right to adequate access to worthwhile work and fair employment conditions and adequate income security.

4. Social Equity-involves the right to adequate access to basic resources and enabling participation.

These principles are integrally related and must be practised simultaneously to develop a wholistic way of live. They are mutually inclusive and interdependent. One principle does not supercode another and no one can be sacrificed for another. People can easily understand this by reflecting on the body, with awareness of what they eat, breathe and promote; all functions of the body, mind and spirit affect each other.

Objectives:

Social legislation vision and policy must strengthen and support human wholistic growth and a quality of life which is mutual, familial, communal, within the context of a stewardly economy and a just society.

Guidelines:

The forementioned principles and objectives require municipal legislation, policies and practices that -

1. recognize the variety of human needs

2. facilitate the development of people's full potential

3. stimulate effective cooperation and participation and decision making

4. enable appropriate education and re-training.

This wholistic approach will help bring about a just, participatory and sustainable society.

CityPlan '91 Interfaith Committee - 1990